

Hafa Adai!

Opening day of Taste of the Marianas draws 4K.

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Court marshals seize tour company's limo, 3 other vehicles. » PAGE 8

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75¢

Military could reduce area of bomb targets on Pagan

By JOEL D. PINAROC
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REPORTER

The military will start incorporating the public comments it had gathered on a draft environmental impact statement on proposed “live-firing” exercises on Tinian and Pagan after conducting several public hearings on the issue.

According to Craig Whelden, executive director of U.S. Marine Corps Forces Pacific, the military will look for ways to address the public’s concerns and incorporate these concerns in the final EIS.

“We will collect of the public comments and we will incorporate them to the final EIS which will be released in July next year,” Whelden said in an inter-

view with *Saipan Tribune*.

Most of the public comments in the hearings opposed any bombings on Pagan.

Whelden said one possible action that the military can include in the next EIS is reducing the area on Pagan where the “live-fire” exercises will be conducted.

See **MILITARY** on Page 4

‘Tai respetu’ for Tinian land, people



DENNIS B. CHAN

This woman's bright orange poster makes word play on the draft environmental impact statement for live-fire training on Tinian.

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

TINIAN—An island people are “threatened” in the Northern Marianas.

On Tinian—where two-thirds of land is leased to the U.S. Department of Defense—the U.S. military proposes live-fire ranges on land it has left idle for decades, after plans for a military base inclusive of

» **Proposed plans clash with promises of civilian-military society decades ago**

shared schools, water, power, and even a movie theater have failed to materialize since the beginnings of the Commonwealth 40 years ago.

The leased land, described by farmers as “prime” and by historians as cultural and historic “playground,” is now a proposed stage for live-fire practice. Landing ramps built on coral beds, restricted access to land and air, and a high impact area for mortar, grenade, rocket

See **RESPECTU** on Page 4

REPORTERS' NOTEBOOK

‘Leave Clifford alone!’



DENNIS B. CHAN

Marine Corps Forces Pacific officials listen during an often heated and passionate public hearing on Tinian last Thursday night.

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

Clifford Guzman, the moderator for all three public hearings of the U.S. military, was told off by CNMI residents several times when he had to remind them that their time to speak had run up. To be fair to Guzman, speakers were only allowed three minutes to speak and the CNMI did sure want to speak. One commenter, who was asked to end

his time at the microphone, told Guzman, who is from Guam, that “Y’know, you really are such a pest.” Some commenters noticeably hurried their speaking as Guzman drew near.

■■■

The public hearing on Tinian was a crowded and humid affair. About 300 people packed the Tinian Jr. Sr. High School cafeteria last Thursday night. Nonessential military

See **CLIFFORD** on Page 4

Team Bodig wins most awards at MMAC

By JAYSON CAMACHO
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REPORTER

Thousands turned up to support the Commonwealth Cancer Association’s signature fundraiser last Friday and Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School field in Chalan Piao.

The 2015 Marianas March Against Cancer, held from May

1 to 2, had more teams showing up in the fight against cancer.

The event kicked off with the opening ceremony at 6pm with the posting of colors

» **More than \$121K raised; over 2K luminaries this year**

RELATED NEWS

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by Kagman High School’s JROTC, the singing of the national anthem from Marianas High School glee club, and welcoming remarks from Saipan Mayor Da-

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Everest Kitchen hosts dinners to raise funds for donation to Nepal’s quake victims.

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LIFE & STYLE

Britain has a new princess and royal birth was greeted with cheers.

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Local

Thomas Manglona accepted into prestigious journalism program

Thomas Lee A. Manglona II, a Mount Carmel School junior and *Saipan Tribune* correspondent, was recently accepted into JCamp, one of the most prestigious journalism training programs in the nation. Sponsored by the Asian American Journalists Association, JCamp is a six-day multicultural journalism training program for freshmen, sophomores, and juniors in high school who attend the camp at no cost, thanks in large part to the support of donors such as the Annie E. Casey Foundation and other corporate sponsors. Celebrating its 15th anniversary, this year's JCamp program will take place on Aug. 3 to 8, 2015, and will be hosted by the University of Minnesota School of Journalism and Mass Communication. Manglona will be one of 42 high school students who were selected by the AAJA from a diverse pool of applicants from across the country.

"I was extremely excited when I received the email stating that I was accepted," Manglona said. "I have learned a lot from local journalists and colleagues in the news industry on Saipan, but getting admitted meant a chance to learn even more about journalism from an entirely new perspective."

Mount Carmel School president Galvin Deleon Guerrero is very happy for Manglona. "Since coming to Mount Carmel School, Thomas has distinguished himself as an inspiring leader, a compassionate advocate for his peers, and, above all, a driven and insightful journalist. Getting into JCamp will undoubtedly help him become



Thomas Manglona II, left, works with fellow journalist Miguel Dandan on shooting a Mount Carmel School event for the school's Knightly News program.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

an even better journalist."

Getting into JCamp was a rigorous process that pitted Manglona against hundreds of other young journalists. In addition to submitting an application form and a recommendation letter, "I had to send them writing samples from past articles I wrote for the *North Star*, *Saipan Tribune*, and *TAGA Sports*, as well as video clips of my work with MCS' Knightly News Broadcast," Manglona said.

Now that he has been accepted into JCamp, "I am eager to

work with the professional journalists at the summer program and graduate with more knowledge and skills that will help me be a better newsman."

In JCamp, students will receive hands-on training in writing, reporting, photography, broadcast and online media from professional journalists who serve as faculty mentors. Among JCamp's core values are the importance of diversity in the newsroom and in media coverage, as well as the value of cross-cultural communica-

tion skills, networking and the fundamentals of leadership and collaboration.

According to Sue Lin Chong, senior communications manager at the Annie E. Casey Foundation, "There is no better program that has allowed teens to learn from the best professionals in journalism. It has been exciting to meet scores of students who have produced outstanding reporting, social media and broadcast stories as a result of their training." Chong added, "JCamp's work aligns with the

Casey Foundation's belief that young people need a voice so they can increase their opportunities for future leadership and make a strong connection to the community."

Earning acceptance into the prestigious program is part of Manglona's long-term goals in journalism. After earning his undergraduate or graduate degree from a recognized journalism program, Manglona aspires "to be working for a major news outlet like CNN, USA Today, NBC News, or *The New York Times*. I hope to come back to the islands after gaining experience and continue reporting on local news."

"My ultimate goal is to create a 24-hour news show for Micronesia and a program similar to that of NBC's 20/20," Manglona added.

Getting into JCamp will help Manglona achieve these long-term goals as he will be in good company. According to Paul Cheung, AAJA national president and director of interactive & digital news production for the Associated Press, "over the past 15 years, we have seen our students grow and now work at major media outlets like *The Wall Street Journal*, Bloomberg, ABC, CNN, *The Washington Post* and more. This year's JCampers will have some big shoes to fill but I'm sure they will be able to step up to the challenge."

Underlying Manglona's

drive for journalism is a commitment to his core beliefs about what journalism can do for a community. "I believe that a lot of the stories in small island communities need to be told and that it's the job of journalists to tell these stories and act as watchdogs in communities that are susceptible to government corruption."

"I have been so fortunate to meet countless people who've welcomed me into their homes and shared their stories. It is sharing the story of struggle, inspiration, and hard work of others that inspires me to continue reporting the news."

JCamp's co-directors Clea Benson, reporter for Bloomberg News; Neal Justin, TV critic for *The Minneapolis Star Tribune* and Lorene Yue, freelance reporter, all return to lead this year's program. Returning faculty mentors include Paul Cheung; Kyndell Harkness, photographer for *The Minneapolis Star Tribune*; Arelis Hernandez, 2004 JCamp graduate and political reporter for *The Washington Post*; Caridad Hernandez, executive producer for investigations and special projects of CBS4 Miami; Richard Lui, anchor for NBC News/MSNBC and Timmy Huynh, 2005 JCamp graduate and photo editor for *The Wall Street Journal*. AAJA also welcomes new faculty mentor Cristela Guerra, reporter for *The Boston Globe*. (PR)

New local laws give funds to Saipan, NI

Gov. Eloy S. Inos enacted on Friday several bills that appropriate funds for Saipan and Northern Islands projects.

Inos, who had just arrived from a routine medical check-up in the Philippines, signed House Local Bill 19-7, which is now Saipan Local Law 19-1.

SLL 19-1 appropriates \$23,000 in poker license fees to repair the Children's Park in Kagman. The funds can't be reprogrammed for any other purpose.

Inos also signed House Local Bill 19-8, which will now be SLL 19-2, to appropriate \$50,000 in poker fees for the following: \$10,000 for the construction of a roof cover of the Dandan Middle School cafeteria; \$10,000 for the repair of San Antonio Elementary School; \$20,000 for the construction of roof cover at Kobleville Elementary School; and \$10,000 for the repair of San Vicente Elementary School's covered walkway.

Inos also signed House Local Bill 19-2, which becomes Saipan Local Law 19-3, to appropriate \$177,000 from the additional collections for fiscal year and unobligated funds

under SLL 11-2.

The law appropriates the following: \$50,000 for the renovation of Precinct 2's basketball court, social hall, youth centers, and sidewalks, renovation of covered walkway for the William S. Reyes Elementary School and park renovations; \$50,000 for Precinct 3 installation of lights and prepaid meters, upgrade of basketball courts, construction of roofing of drop off and pick up area at Oleai Elementary School; and \$50,000 for Precinct 4 retrofit basketball courts, sidewalks, purchase of playgroup equipment.

SLL19-3 also appropriates \$196,000 lapsed funds for the following: \$25,000 for the Mayor of Saipan; \$20,000 for Division of Parks and Recreation; \$15,000 for the completion of Gillette Road; \$10,000 for the mayor of the Northern Islands; \$41,000 for the operational costs of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation; \$15,000 for the continuation of paving of Pine Drive in Kagman; \$45,000 for the Judicial Branch for the holding cells; \$15,000 for the Agricultural Fair. (Joel D. Pinaroc)

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Fund trustee opposes striking Pangelinan's declaration

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

NMI Settlement Fund administrator Lillian M. Pangelinan's declaration in connection with the employer contribution rate issue and the Fund's accompanying exhibits should not be stricken because they do not constitute "new" evidence, according to Fund trustee counsel Dean Manglona.

In the NMI Settlement Fund's opposition to the Northern Marianas College's motion to strike, Manglona asserted that Pangelinan's declaration and the accompanying exhibits were submitted in response to NMC's opposition to the Fund trustee's request to com-

pel NMC to pay the 30 percent employer contribution rate.

Manglona said Pangelinan's statements regarding NMC's employer contribution payment history and the NMC board meeting minutes were made in direct response to NMC's argument.

Manglona said NMC's specific argument was that it was not subject to the 30 percent employer contribution rate as set forth in Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo's Aug. 22, 2011, order because it was never a party to the court action and therefore received no due process.

Manglona said to refute NMC's argument, the trustee

argued that NMC, like all other autonomous agencies, were all subject to the 30 percent employer contribution rate, and therefore used evidence in the form of NMC's payment history to show that NMC was complying with Govendo's order.

The lawyer said the trustee offered additional evidence in the form of the NMC board meeting minutes to show that the NMC board unilaterally decided to reduce its employer contributions rate from 30 percent to 20 percent, and that the reduction was due to NMC's budgeting issues.

Manglona said NMC further argues that Pangelinan's statements were not based on per-

sonal knowledge.

"This is incorrect," said Manglona, citing that Pangelinan's statements in her declaration are based on facts she personally knew.

For example, the lawyer pointed out, with regard to the NMC's history of paying at the 30 percent employer contribution rate for Oct. 20, 2010, to November 2011, the information was available to Pangelinan in the regular course of her duties.

The Fund trustee asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to require NMC to comply with the settlement agreement in Betty Johnson's class action by paying all outstanding and accrued employer contributions

and penalties in the amount of \$75,080.79.

In her declaration, Pangelinan said although 30 percent was the applicable employer contribution rate as of June 26, 2013, a number of government agencies are actually paying above 30 percent.

Pangelinan issued the declaration to support the Settlement Fund trustee's motion to compel NMC to pay the 30 percent rate as per the settlement agreement in Betty John-

son's class action.

NMC, through counsel Mark Scoggins, asked the court to strike and not to consider Pangelinan's declaration.

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BODIG

From Page 1

vid M. Apatang.

“It goes without saying that cancer is a serious and real threat that has taken the best among us. Therefore, it is of paramount importance that we continue to stand up as one united community, and fight this dreadful disease, be it through volunteerism or donating to health organizations, medical research, outreach programs, or simply promoting public awareness via active participation in community events like MMAC,” Apatang said in his remarks.

Apatang noted that he himself is a cancer survivor.

“Let us continue to pay tribute to our loved ones and compatriots who have lost their battle against cancer as well as fight on for our own survival, cancer survivors, protection of our children and many generations to come. Let’s continue to fight the good fight until we’re the last ones standing and cancer is no more,” he said.

Over 20 cancer survivors were recognized and presented with medallions. Cancer survivor Cesar Dumatol made his survivor’s speech followed by the survivor’s lap.

The luminary ceremony and

the reading of names followed at 6:30pm, to honor those who have survived cancer, are undergoing treatment, and those who have lost the fight against cancer.

The 12-hour event featured over 15 booths displayed around the field hosting games, refreshments, brochures, products, and activities for community members.

Teams competed in four categories—Pulan (Families), Napu (Schools), Puti’un (Businesses), and Atdao (Non-Profit/Government Agencies).

Teams included Mt. Carmel School, Marianas Resort and Spa with Hopwood Junior High and the U.S. Marine Corps, IT&E and Saipan Southern High School, the CNMI government, Korason, Joeten and Marianas High School, Chacha Oceanview Junior High School, Team Bodig, First Hawaiian Bank and Napu Riders, Tan Holdings and Kagman High School, Pacific Islands Club, Faiye, Talaabwogh, and Precision Medical Imaging and Dandan Middle School.

Team Bodig receives most awards

Around 5am the closing of MMAC began with prayers followed by the presentation of awards.

Team Bodig won four awards,

The Friday hearing at Garapan Elementary School drew hundreds, and although most of the comments were generally the same, there were quite a few that offered insights on how the community feels about military presence in the CNMI.

Former representative Stanley Torres said the CNMI community supports the military, but not the proposed bombing. “Don’t bomb a small island,” Torres said.

He said the military and the community should look into the Covenant of the U.S. and Commonwealth and review it.

“There is a deficiency in the Covenant. And this [proposed military presence] is one of them,” the former lawmaker said.

For Rip Stephenson, a 30-year resident of the CNMI, the community is one in rejecting the proposed military exercises. A a long-time member of the community, he feels that people do not support the military presence. “How will this benefit us?” Stephenson asked.

Lucy Sablan said the issue of unexploded ordnance and “inert” bombs are a concern for her. “All I hear are bombs. So I don’t support these activities,” she said.

Ambrose Bennett, a former teacher, said the military is trying to “commandeer” Pagan. He said the goal of the military is “good,” but the military is wrong in its plan to conduct live-fire exercises on Tinian and Pagan.

Jack Muña said the military deserves a “salute” for giving the public a chance to voice their concerns via the public hearings. He, however, said the community is still not in favor of any bombings and military exercises in the CNMI.

becoming the most awarded team once again. Bodig won for best tent, spirit, Pulan category for family, and most luminaries sold.

Team Talaabwogh won best baton. The newest team—MRS, HJHS, and U.S Marine Corps—

RESPETU

From Page 1

and artillery-live fire, among others, is planned for the island.

For the people who call Tinian their home, though, the answer to these military plans is an unequivocal “No!”

At the Marine Corps Forces Pacific’s public hearing on Tinian last Thursday, about 300 Tinian residents gathered to support a “no action” alternative to the military’s proposed training.

A common plan for all training alternatives proposed in the draft environmental impact statement is the “high impact” firing range.

Kimberly King-Hinds says the plan for this range shows no respect to Tinian land and people.

“[The draft impact statement] is nothing more but a plan to destroy Tinian and destroy our culture. What you call restricted access to beaches, to coastal zones, alterations to the sea floor, to taking away coral, to eliminating certain fish species is what we call our customary right of way of feeding our families.”

“What you call your cattle grazing mitigation plan is a threat to our food supply and our ability to be self-sustaining. What you call restricted access to cultural sites is really a denial of our ability to practice our traditional and customary rights of going to the forest to pick *doni*, going to pick our medicine, going to pay respect to our dead...

And what you call not just 20—but your 22 to 40 weeks of training—is an economic chokehold on this community that has been struggling to be self-sustaining and to steer clear from being a welfare economy,” she said.

“What you call a high impact training zone is what I call *tai respetu*—no respect! No respect for land and no respect for people in this community!” she said to great applause.

Another speaker, Eric San Nicolas, said the Department of Defense does not own two-thirds of Tinian—“they leased it,” he said. “So at the end of the day... we are the patrons of the land.

“...Many of you who have gone out with our parents like

won most laps. Tan Holdings and KHS won the newest award called rising star. PIC won in the Pution category for corporate. The CNMI government won in the Atdao category for non-profit/government and Mt. Car-

I have to pick *doni*, to catch *ayuyu*... all of these things are connected to the land.”

“I’ve walked through those forests... talking stories with my mom, dad, grandma, and grandpa from both sides—that’s how we learn our culture, because Chamorro is not a written culture. We inherit it by talking stories with our parents and our grandparents. You can never put a monetary value to that... you can never return that. Our land is connected to our souls. The moment we are given the land it already belongs to our children, even if they have never been born. So how can we sell something that is not ours?” he said.

Tinian Mayor Joey San Nicolas gave the island leadership’s unequivocal position when he spoke. He noted the “devastating effects” on Tinian’s “reef, jungles, and soil” from live-fire that would leave their own “soils lost” to them and “make land essentially unusable.”

San Nicolas noted that “cleaning up has never been a priority” for the U.S. who he said has left stored waste on Tinian. To note, it’s unclear right now if the Chiget mortar range, beside a popular Tinian blow-hole, can or ever will be cleaned up of its leftover munitions or contaminants.

“If the military builds and uses these ranges as proposed, we will never get those lands back... The millions of bullets, grenades, rockets, and bombs fired everywhere will make our lands essentially unusable. Will that waste have long lasting effects on our drinking water?” he said, noting that they have “responsibility” to the island’s future generations.

To applause from the crowd, he said, “We, the leadership of Tinian, oppose the plans outlines in the draft EIS.”

“The military should select the “no action” alternative,” he concluded.

History

Sentiments that night also exposed the promised vision of a military economy decades ago with the perceived vision now of artillery shells, grenades, and noise and aquifer pollution.

Serafina King-Nabors said,

mel won for the Napu category for schools.

In an interview, MMAC overall committee chair Diana I. Benavente noted that 2,429 luminaries were sold.

“Our luminaries were sold

“Forty years ago, we were marching for the Covenant” but the live-fire ranges and the lease of whole of island of Pagan were not on the CNMI’s negotiating table.

“Leave us with our beaches,” she said.

One man, who said he was a special bodyguard to U.S. ambassadors during the Covenant talks, said he “brought the Covenant to Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.”

But nevertheless, while he even has a daughter in the military, he could not support the military’s current plans on Tinian.

“We’ve got 11 miles on Tinian, OK? Two-thirds of that 11 miles belong to you guys, the military. We have only 3.6 miles of living space so I don’t know what else you want from us...” he said.

Hinds also noted how “Americans came here and you promised my parents and our grandparents that you were going to build a school and you were going to build a military base, and you were going to provide for us jobs through a military economy.”

It appears Hinds was alluding to the “Technical agreement regarding use of land to be leased by the U.S. in the Northern Marianas” that was executed decades ago.

Signed by U.S. ambassador F. Hadyn Williams, the personal representative of the President of the United States and other CNMI officials in May 1975, the agreement paints the terms of a military and civilian society co-existing with each other.

The agreement, copies of which were obtained by *Saipan Tribune*, details provisions that would govern future relations with U.S. and civilian authorities. These arrangements would be accomplished through a “Civil-Military Advisory Council,” the agreement notes.

The agreement also details provisions of access to fishing sites and beaches that would “remain open at all possible times” or at the “same access” levels of military personnel and families unless military training risks prohibit it.

The agreement also notes that utilities will be planned on an islandwide basis in coordination

out. Even after it was sold out they were asking for 600 more,” Benavente said.

MMAC public relations committee vice chair Chris Concepcion said that over \$121,000 was raised.

with the CNMI, and that excess capacity would be available to the civilian community on Tinian.

Emergency care in military facilities would be provided by the military to all residents when available on Tinian, the agreement notes. It adds that where health facilities are not available on civilian level, the military would provide this also.

The agreement also details provisions of fire emergency services, an “integrated local school system,” seeking of local services by the U.S. government, and the “use of base moves by the civilian community.”

Now it appears these assurances shouldn’t have been made, indicated MARFORPAC executive director Craig Whelden in an interview after the hearing.

“I don’t know what happened 30 or 40 years ago,” he said. “Perhaps there was some indication, there was a plan at one time to put a base here... [But] if you look at Guam and the base there either at the south or north end—Andersen Air Force Base or Apra Harbor Naval base—those are restricted spaces,” the director said.

“Nobody can go inside those unless you have an authorized ID card. So as I heard that comment from several people, I thought to myself... If we came in and put a base on the northern two-thirds of Tinian, there’d be a gate from one ocean to the other side and the only people authorized up in there would be ID card holders. So it’s kind of a mischaracterization that the people of Tinian would get access to the northern two thirds if we had a base—because bases all over the world, in the continental United States and Okinawa and Guam—they all have gates with access control.”

“Civilians have no access to commissaries. Those are for ID cardholders... So I don’t know what was said 30 or 45 years ago, but I can tell you from 50 years of experience with the military, if they built a base here there’d be a fence from one side to the other and a gate nobody can go into.”

“I don’t know what was said back then, and perhaps, things were said that shouldn’t have been said,” he said.

MILITARY

From Page 1

“This was not included in the draft EIS, but we see this as a way to address some of the concerns,” Whelden said.

Aside from reducing the target areas, the military can also assign the targets in areas where there is lava, to reduce the impacts of the bombing on the island’s flora and fauna, he said.

Whelden said part of the proposed military exercises is to set up a volcano monitoring system on Pagan.

Hundreds of Pagan residents had to relocate to Saipan after a volcano on the island showed signs of activity. The island currently does not have any volcano monitoring system.

Whelden said the proposed military exercises in the CNMI are in line with President Obama’s plans to beef up U.S. presence in the whole of the Pacific. Is also for “economic reasons” that more U.S military presence is needed in the Pacific, he added.

The official said the CNMI government’s request for an extension of the review period of the draft EIS is still being studied, but a decision will be forthcoming this month.

More comments

The military held the first hearing on Saipan on April 29, followed by another on Tinian on April 30, and the last on Saipan on May 1.

All of the hearings drew hundreds, and the common sentiment was opposition to the proposed military activities on Tinian and Pagan.

CLIFFORD

From Page 1

staff reportedly stepped out to give residents more space inside. MARFORPAC executive director Craig Whelden had to sit on the stairs as he listened to comments.

■■■

Students got involved in Tinian high school, sharing poems they had written.

■■■

At Friday’s hearing, one Saipan

resident said he had packed his bag and was ready to leave...for Pagan. The man claimed he was recently made a permanent resident of the island. Military training would interfere with his food and living, he noted. But as part of his training with the Hopi Indians, he said, they smoked a “peace pipe.” “There’s no conflict that cannot be solved around a shared joint,” he said, directing this to the military.

■■■

While most of the public comments were in support of a “no

action” alternative to military training, a couple of speakers thought otherwise. One man essentially alleged that the CNMI was being hypocritical in balking at the military’s proposed actions. “What are you giving back? All states got some military apparatus. It’s your turn, baby. It’s your turn,” he said. “What are you afraid of? That Uncle Sam will look at your dirty deeds, pull out your dirty laundry? That they gonna’ double check, triple check? They gonna’ look into your surveil-

lance, they gonna look into how you sold this island to the Chinese.” The last comment drew some heckling from a man filming the hearing. But that man continued, “It comes down to us versus them? Everybody here’s spending green money. Everybody here’s using cellphones, son. It’s us versus them? It’s a white man on those dollars. It’s us versus them? Right.”

■■■

Some CNMI officials made it to all three public hearings. Biba for perfect attendance

CNMI gets youth jobs program grant

The U.S. Department of the Interior approved \$310,000 in grant for the CNMI's Public School System to help graduating high school students be ready for employment, according to Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP).

Sablan said the local Chambers of Commerce in the CNMI will help in the "Connecting Youth to Jobs" program that the grant will support.

The program is a public-private partnership that matches a focused school curriculum with on-the-job training.

"This motivates students to

finish school and ensures that qualified local workers are available to employers to support our expanding tourism industry and improving economy," Sablan said.



Sablan

The grant funds are appropriated by Congress for Interior's Technical Assistant Program.

"TAP is always one of my priority submissions to the House Appropriations Committee for full funding, because the program is flexible enough to respond to innovative proposals like Connecting Youth to Jobs, a model I think can be very ef-

fective at helping young people make the transition from school to work," he said.

The CNMI could face a looming labor shortage, according to Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Alex Sablan in an earlier report.

Sablan said there are approximately 11,400 foreign workers in the Commonwealth, but if developers are successful in constructing their hotel rooms, the CNMI will need 17,000 workers.

He said the number of hotel rooms could swell to 10,000 rooms, and that is only on Saipan. The manpower for these developments exceeds what the CNMI currently has. *(Joel Pinaroc)*

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Opening day of Taste of the Marianas draws 4K

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The perfect weather and a new look drew over 4,000 visitors and community members to the opening of the 2015 Taste of the Marianas International Food and Beer Garden last Saturday.

Going on its 17th year, the Taste of the Marianas was a hit for both tourists and residents alike as they marched to American Memorial Park to enjoy the bigger venue, food and drinks galore, lots of performers, competitions, and the perfect sunset to start off the night.

The Taste of the Marianas is held every Saturday in May and is part of the celebration of CNMI Tourism Month. It was formally opened with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 6:15pm spearheaded by Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio, government officials, lawmakers, and stakeholders of the tourism industry.

Those who came had their fill of different international foods and drinks provided by 15 food vendors that included Mariana Resort and Spa, Thai House Restaurant, Tropical Chill, Tony Roma's and Capricciosa, Canton Restaurant, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan, Pacific Island's Club, Kanoa Resort, Hula Girl, Herman's Modern Bakery, Furusato Restaurant, D'Elegance Café, Coral Ocean Point, and Sierra's Pearl Shake.

Performances kicked off with the Chinese Association of Saipan doing the lion dance to bless the event. This was followed by mostly traditional local dances and island-style dances that showcased the Pacific Region.

The event also featured a beer garden with a designated area for libations.

At 8pm, a hotdog-eating

competitions for the children and adults were staged at the other end of the venue.

Michael Alovera emerged victorious in the children's division, winning \$50 in tokens. He was followed by Archibald Velasco, who won \$30 worth of tokens, and John Francis Santiago—the youngest—winning third place and taking \$20 worth of tokens.

In an interview, Velasco, Alovera, and Santiago said it was their first time to enter the competition. All three said they just wanted to eat free hotdogs but didn't expect to win and we're happy when they

bested seven other competitors.

In the adults category, Andrew Songsong won first place, Simon Necesito won second, and Raymond Emul—last year's winner—came in third.

Songsong said he had won a Taste of the Marianas hotdog

eating competition in previous years. Emul said that although he didn't win this year, he was happy to be in the top three. Necesito was pleased with his second place finish.

Great turnout, new look

Tenorio said that they changed the orientation of the Taste of the Marianas compared to last year's to make it larger.

The new look had all the vendors on the side with the stage facing the entire ground. There was a sitting area for the performances around the stage. Each food vendor's booths also had available tents and tables for the public to sit on and enjoy their food.

"That was part of the community's recommendation. It was a little too small so we just widened it up," he said.

A lot of those who went to the venue did like the new look but it had its downside as well. Some community members

were hoping to see more vendors. Others said the music was too loud and they had to shout just to get a good conversation. Several Japanese tourists—including Aya, Hanami, Seito, and Kaito—said this was their second visit to Saipan but never heard about the Taste of the Marianas before. Korean tourists and Chinese tourists interviewed by *Saipan Tribune* said they also enjoyed it.

Tenorio said the event had a good turnout.

"Were very happy and we would like to thank the Hotel

Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, vendors, and the National Park Services," he said. "We invite the community to come and enjoy the celebration. Everyone looks forward to this event and now it's here."

When asked if they were really going to change from tokens to card machines next year, Tenorio said, "It is something we're considering and may not be impossible. Maybe there is something in the phone system that we can look into and hopefully have that."

RELATED NEWS

See photos on Pages 16-17

HSEM staff cited for alleged illegal use of govt vehicle

Police issued a traffic citation last month to an employee of the CNMI Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management for alleged illegal use of a government vehicle.

Saipan Tribune learned that during his arraignment on Thursday, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho found George C. Cabrera not eligible for a public defender as his counsel due to his salary.

Camacho instructed Cabrera to seek a private attorney to represent him in the traffic case.

When contacted yesterday, Cabrera said he has no decision yet on how to deal with the case. He, however, stated that he was on call that weekend and that the vehicle was assigned to him.

Cabrera said he was just helping his wife in church activities

for a fiesta. He did not elaborate as the case is pending in court.

According to court records, police officer Melissa Bauleong issued the traffic citation for illegal use of government vehicle to Cabrera on Capital Hill on March 18, 2015, at 1:18pm.

The government vehicle involved is a white 2012 Toyota 4X4 pickup truck with license plate GOV'T-42-53 registered to the CNMI Office of Homeland Security.

According to Department of Public Safety Commissioner James Deleon Guerrero, Cabrera was found by a joint DPS and OPA Public Corruption Task Force police detective using the government vehicle for personal use while assisting during the Santa Soledad Fiesta preparations in Kagman. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Lawmakers support approval of zoning permit for BSI

CNMI lawmakers support the granting of a zoning permit to Best Sunshine International Ltd., saying this will help the Commonwealth.

On Thursday, the CNMI Zoning Board voted unanimously to grant the zoning permit, which is seen as the last major obstacle for Best Sunshine to finally start building a hotel casino in Garapan.

For Rep. Angel Demapan (R-Saipan), the community's "war" on drugs, particularly methamphetamine or "ice," and other social vices requires resources from the government. He said the CNMI does not have treatment centers nor does it have "recovery programs." The casino industry—now that it is here—can help the CNMI government get the necessary

resources, Demapan said.

The lawmaker, however, said that since the casino industry is new, there is a need to revisit Public Law 18-56, the casino law, and review the casino commission's law.

For Rep. Joseph Lee Pan Guerrero (R-Saipan), the casino industry can be the CNMI's "redemption." He is urging the community to sup-

port the industry.

"What other industries do we have?" Guerrero asked, citing the financial resources that the industry can bring to the CNMI government.

Rep. Ralph Demapan (R-Saipan), who authored a bill that eventually became P.L. 18-56, also urged the community to support Best Sunshine. (*Joel D. Pinaroc*)



INVITATION FOR BIDS WATER TASK FORCE IFB15-GOV-073



Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres, through the CNMI Water Task Force, are soliciting sealed bids for the Lower Base Water Distribution System Improvement in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project was previously announced under IFB15-GOV-040; however that bid was canceled pursuant to the Procurement Regulation NMIAC §70-30.3-240(f). (Only one responsive bid was received at a cost that was deemed to be unreasonably high). **There are no changes to the plans or specifications.**

A bid guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of the Treasury (T-Listed).

The Contractor will be required to submit payment and performance bonds from a US Treasury listed company. The Contractor will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal laws including the Davis Bacon Act.

This project is funded in part by a grant from the **Economic Development Administration (EDA), US Department of Commerce and CIP-CDA (PL 17-90). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the project approval from EDA.**

The project consists, in general, but is not limited to:

- Construction of approximately 2,290 LF of 12-inch PVC, 9,560 LF of 8-inch PVC, and 2,540 LF of 6" PVC waterlines, fire hydrants, air relief valves, flush hydrants, blow-off valves, fittings and appurtenances.
- Install new service laterals and connect to existing water meter locations.
- Install gate valves, fittings, and connections to existing water mains at various locations.
- Abandon in-place of old PVC pipe.
- Restore disturbed asphalt paving and concrete pavements.
- Pressure testing and chlorination of new waterlines.
- Removal of temporary facilities and controls.
- Construction activity to not interrupt existing water service to the area.

A non-refundable payment of \$500 to CNMI Treasury is required for each set of Plans, Specifications, and Proposal Forms, available on or after **April 20, 2015** at the Water Task Force Office, 1316 Anatahan Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan. A mandatory pre-bid conference for this project is scheduled at **10:00 a.m.**, on **April 29, 2015**, at the WTF Conference Room, Saipan. A project site visit may be made as a part of the pre-bid meeting.

All inquiries shall be in writing and addressed to Pedro Sasamoto, Program Manager, Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 or faxed to (670) 664-2279. Inquiries must be received no later than 4:30 PM on **April 28, 2015**.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, contained in the CNMI Administrative Code, Title 70 Subchapter 70-30.3-301. Preference is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funds for this project.

Sealed bids must be marked **"IFB15-GOV-073"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and three copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 2:00 pm local time **May 5, 2015**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 2:00 pm local time **May 5, 2015**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and three copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **May 5, 2015**, and must be received no later than **May 14, 2015**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 3:00 pm local time, **May 15, 2015**. However, if no Notices of Intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 3:00 pm local time on **May 5, 2015**.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/S/ Eloy S. Inos
Governor and Contracting Officer

/S/ Herman S. Sablan
Director, Procurement and Supply



Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950



ANNOUNCEMENT

The CNMI WIC (Women, Infants and Children) Program is now accepting Vendor Applications for the islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

All interested vendors may pick up an application at the main office located on Upper Navy Hill Building # N-25, beginning May 04, 2015 through July 17, 2015; Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, or request for an application via email at fabianu@cnmiwic.org or download an application on CHCC's website at <http://chcc.gov.mp>.

Applications must be submitted to the CNMI WIC Program's Administrative Office no later than 4:00 p.m., July 17, 2015.

Prospective applicants are encouraged to carefully read through the information provided to ensure minimum qualifications are met.

Inquiries and technical questions may be directed to the Vendor Management Coordinator, Fabian M. Ulloa at (670) 664-4066, by email at fabianu@cnmiwic.org or by facsimile at (670) 664-4069.

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/s/ Esther L. Muña
Chief Executive Officer
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

/s/ Carmen C. Cabrera
Administrator
CNMI WIC Program

'Except for some critical staff, Judiciary ready for drug court'

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Except for the need to add some critical staff, the CNMI Judiciary is ready to implement a drug court, according to Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman.

In a letter to Sen. Sixto K. Igisomar (R-Saipan) last Wednesday, Wiseman said the Judiciary is pleased that a member of the Legislature has expressed interest in creating a drug court.

Wiseman disclosed that in his recent discussion with Gov. Eloy S. Inos, he is amenable to getting together with Igisomar, Department of Public Safety Commissioner James C. DeLeon Guerrero, and other legislative leaders to talk about the establishment of the Drug Court.

"Hopefully, the result would be a consensus of placing the matter of a drug court of high priority and to provide the necessary funding," the judge said.

Igisomar is proposing a bill to allow the forfeiture of the assets of individuals convicted of distributing illegal drugs, particularly "ice." Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan) recently introduced a bill to allocate \$300,000 to DPS and the Department of Finance to supplement the drug enforcement efforts of these two agencies.

Wiseman said the Judiciary already has a team of required professionals to implement a drug court. The team attended a National Drug Court training session in Nashville two years ago. Since that time, the judge said, they have worked on creating a drug court.

"We have our plan in place and all is ready to go except for some critical staff we need," he disclosed.

Wiseman urged the government to assure the implementation of the drug court to mitigate and reduce drug addiction, and as a consequence, many crimes.

Wiseman said it is estimated that drugs drive 80 percent of crime in America and the economic costs of substance abuse and addiction are substantial, affecting healthcare expenditures, productivity in all walks of life, incarceration, criminal victimization and numerous other areas that affect the quality of life of the community.

The judge noted that a drug court's monitoring function depends substantially on two team members: a drug treatment specialist and a probation officer assigned to check on the participants on a very frequent basis, and to administer on the spot drug tests and other works.

He said the CNMI Probation Office is currently understaffed

and the ratio of probationers to a probation officer is already very high. As such, they do not have the one or two extra staff the drug court would need to carry out its mandate.

The judge said it is unfortunate that the CNMI does not have any drug treatment spe-

cialist that a drug addict can turn to for assistance.

Wiseman pointed out that with the crime surge in the CNMI, majority of which is caused or driven by the methamphetamine or "ice" and drug use and addiction, it is a misfortune for the Commonwealth to

be in this position.

The good news, however, he said, is that the CNMI can turn this around by having a small budget for drug treatment specialists and probation officers that would allow them to implement the drug court.

"Although we are hopeful

of obtaining a federal grant for some critical staff next year, we should have commenced this drug court sometime ago and time is of the essence," he said.

Wiseman said if they have funding for the critical staff, they are ready, willing, and able to implement the drug court.



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Nick Brennfleck, Eleventh year teaching, Masters of Teaching from George Mason

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Court marshals seize tour company's limo, 3 other vehicles

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Superior Court Marshal Service Division has seized a limousine, two buses, and a van belonging to Mode Tour Saipan Corp. after a jury found the company and its parent company in South Korea liable to pay a \$2.3 million in damages to the widow and estate of a Korean tourist who drowned during a cliff fishing tour at Dump Coke on Tinian in 2008.

The Marshal Service proceeded to Mode Tour Saipan Corp.'s office near Quartermaster on Thursday, served a court's writ of execution, and seized the four vehicles: a Lincoln Town Car with license plate ACG-547, two Ford E-450 Super Duty with license plates BUS-275 and BUS-1263, and a Toyota Sienna with license plate ACK-794.

The Marshal Service brought the four vehicles to the parking lot of the Judiciary's complex in Susupe.

Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio issued the writ of execution last Tuesday, directing the Marshal

Service Division to seize all vehicles registered in the name of Mode Tour Saipan Corp. and to deliver those vehicles to the court.

Kim-Tenorio ordered the Marshal Service to sell the vehicles for the benefit of Jung Su An, Eun Ju Jun, and Ho Chan Jung.

It is not clear as to when the Marshal Service will auction the four vehicles.

Saipan Tribune learned that attorney Colin M. Thompson, counsel for plaintiffs, filed on March 13, 2015, in the CNMI Supreme Court a notice appealing Kim-Tenorio's order that granted Mode Tour's motion for partial summary judgment on the punitive damages claim.

The order that Thompson appealed was part of the order partially granting and partially denying Mode Tour's motion for summary judgment issued by Kim-Tenorio on Dec. 22, 2014.

Saipan Tribune called attorney Thomas Clifford, counsel for Mode Tour Saipan Corp. and Mode Tour Network Inc., on Friday, but he refused to comment about the seizure of the vehicles.

Last Feb. 4, jurors unani-



FERDIE DE LA TORRE

A limousine, two buses, and a van belonging to Mode Tour Saipan Corp. are parked at the Judicial Complex's parking lot in Susupe after the Superior Court's Marshal Service Division seized them on Thursday pursuant to a court's order.

mously found Mode Tour Network Inc. and Mode Tour Saipan Corp. negligent in the accidental death of Hoseung Jung.

The jurors attributed 90 percent of fault to Mode Tour Network Inc. and 10 percent of fault to Mode Tour Saipan Corp. The jurors awarded \$500,000 to Jung's mother, Jung Su An, for mental pain and suffering. They awarded \$1.8 million to the estate of the decedent, Hoseung Jung, for pecuniary injury.

Kim-Tenorio presided over the trial. Thompson served as counsel for mother Jung Su An, widow Eun Ju Jun, and brother Ho Chan Jung, who served as personal representa-

tive of the decedent.

The plaintiffs brought a wrongful death action and for negligent infliction of emotional distress on the part of the widow against Mode Tour Network Inc., Mode Tour Saipan Corp., and Jae Min Corp.

Jun and her husband Joung had come to the CNMI in December 2008 for their honeymoon following their wedding in South Korea.

Thompson said through their consultation with Mode Tour Network, the couple booked a cliff fishing tour when they visited Tinian.

The tour guides took the couple and six other Korean tourists to a site popularly called Dump

Coke, a fishing area located at a remote and rural part of Tinian.

After fishing until 6:30pm, the group sat down to a dinner prepared by the tour agents. The dinner was held within a short distance of the cliff line. As part of the dinner, Thompson said, the agents served alcoholic beverages.

At 9pm, the agents packed up the fishing rods and cleaned up the area. One of the agents drove the four women in the group, including Jun, back to the Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino.

The male tourists, including Joung, and a tour agent stayed behind to wait for another car.

The agent later realized that Joung was missing.

Thompson said the agents searched and found Joung floating face down in the water below the cliff.

Police later retrieved Joung's body and he was pronounced dead at the Tinian Health Center.

Mode Tour Network Inc. is a tour package tour wholesaler in Korea. It claims it has never had any offices or employees anywhere in the CNMI and instead, has an independent contractor agreement with Mode Tour Saipan Corp. to provide tour agent services to tourists who travel to the CNMI on Mode Tour Network's package tours.

In Mode Tour Network's and Mode Tour Saipan's documents filed in court, Clifford said Mode Tour Network Inc. is merely a wholesaler of package tours in Korea, and that it's only nexus to the accident is that it sold a tour package that included a visit to Tinian.

Clifford said Mode Tour Network did not sell the optional tour to the couple and it would never have received any money from their decision on Tinian to participate in the optional tour.

The lawyer said Mode Tour Saipan Corp., in turn, had selected Jae Min Corp. as an optional tour, but it also understood it to have an excellent safety record.

Local student receives WSU scholarship

PULLMAN, Wash.—Patrick Torres received a \$2,000 Nancy J. Robertson Endowed Graduate Fellowship in Mathematics from the College of Arts and Sciences at Washington State University. This award is given to students who show outstanding academic performance.

Torres graduated from Marianas High School in 1999 and plans to graduate from WSU in May 2016 with a graduate degree in mathematics.

Torres is the son of Maria and Herman Torres of Saipan, CNMI. (*WSU*)

Air Force training at Farallon de Medinilla

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Air Force will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

■ May 4, 6, and 7, from 10am to 2pm

■ May 8, from 10am to 4pm

The general public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators are advised to stay clear of the areas during the dates and times indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10-nautical mile radius on all quadrants. (*PR*)



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NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Commonwealth Ports Authority hereby gives notice that a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Thursday, May 7, 2015, at 10:00 a.m. at Fleming's Hotel and Restaurant on San Jose, Tinian. The following items are on the agenda for the above-referenced meeting:

AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
 1. Call to Order
 2. Roll Call
 3. Adoption of Agenda
 4. Adoption of Minutes (November 25, 2014)
- II. BOARD ORGANIZATION
 1. Election of Officers
 2. Appointments of Standing Committee Chairs and members
- III. CORRESPONDENCES
- IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS
 1. Financial Affairs Committee
 2. Airport Facilities Committee
 3. Seaport Facilities Committee
 4. Personnel Affairs Committee
 5. Appeals Ad hoc Committee (SARS Appeal)
 6. SIA Master Concession Ad hoc Committee
- V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
- VI. OLD BUSINESS
 1. None
- VII. NEW BUSINESS
 1. Supplemental Budget Request (Airport)
 2. SIA PAPI/REIL Reimbursable Agreement AJW-FN-10-4016 Modification B Approval and Supplemental
 3. SIA PAPI/REIL CM Amendment No. 1 Approval
 4. SIA AOA Office Relocation Award and supplemental
 5. Personnel Matter: Employment contract renewal
 6. Leases:
 - a. Pacific Marine Enterprises: Request for Lease
 - b. Huangshun: Option to Renew
 - c. American Red Cross: Request for Lease Renewal
 - d. Tandem Sky Dive: Request for Extension
- VIII. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS
- IX. PUBLIC COMMENT
- X. EXECUTIVE SESSION/Legal Counsel Report(s)
- XI. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ THOMAS P. VILLAGOMEZ
Acting Chairman, Board of Directors

May 1, 2015

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
www.crm.gov.mp

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) will be holding a public hearing on the proposed Ocean Vista Resort project under permit application number SMS-2015-X-010. The permit application was submitted by the Saipan International Real Estate Development Corp., Ltd. (SIRDCL) to construct a nine-story building with 144 hotel rooms, 5 two-bedroom apartments, 4 five-bedroom villas, restaurants, gift shop, swimming pool area, gymnasium, water pump and storage facility, injection and projection wells, access roads, parking areas, and landscaped gardens.

The proposed Ocean Vista Resort project will be situated in Lower Capitol Hill on 10 acres of private lands specifically Lot numbers H 328-3, H 328-5, and TR-21698.

The public hearing is scheduled for Monday evening, May 18, 2015, 5:00 PM at the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality conference room, Suite 205, Gualo Rai Center, Middle Road, Gualo Rai, Saipan.

Written comments can be submitted to the DCRM Office, Suite 305, Gualo Rai Center, Middle Road, Gualo Rai, Saipan, or mail to the Division of Coastal Resources Management, Caller Box 10007 or by fax at 664-8315. The project file is open for review and comment during regular business hours from 7:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M., Monday thru Friday. All written and oral comments received by DCRM will be included as part of the permit application record and will be considered in any decisions concerning the proposed project.

Please contact the DCRM at 664-8300/1 if you have any questions or would like to learn more about the Ocean Vista Resort project.

/s/ Frances A. Castro
Director
Division of Coastal Resources Management

LAW OFFICES OF S. JOSHUA BERGER
D'TORRES BUILDING, GARAPAN
P.O. Box 504340
SAIPAN, MP 96950
Phone (670) 235-8060 Fax 235-8070

Attorney for Plaintiff

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

BANK OF SAIPAN,)	CIVIL ACTION
Plaintiff,)	NO.: 15-0039
v.)	AMENDED
JOSEPH ANTHONY CABRERA)	SUMMONS
SANTOS and CAROL S. SANTOS,)	
Defendants.)	

TO: CAROL S. SANTOS
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file with the Superior Court any Answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which shall be provided upon request to Plaintiff's counsel, within twenty-one (21) days after the fourth publication, and to deliver or mail a copy of your Answer to the Law Offices of S. Joshua Berger, Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is Second Floor, D'Torres Building, Garapan, P.O. Box 504340, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your Answer.

Your Answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

By Order of the above Court:
DATED: April 24, 2015

/s/ CLERK OF COURT
First Publication

Man's statements while in custody deemed inadmissible

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho has suppressed all the statements made in custody by Angelo Ignacio C. Villagomez, who was arrested by Division of Fish and Wildlife Investigation Unit officers last Dec. 15 for allegedly using a gill net to fish at a Lau Lau Beach dive spot.

In granting Villagomez's motion to suppress statements, Camacho determined that there is nothing indicating what exact rights the defendant was advised of, nor are there any testimony indicating that he had acknowledged that he understood these rights.

In his order last Wednesday, Camacho said if any statements were made at DFW's office in Lower Base, it is unclear whether Villagomez knowingly signed this form to waive his constitutional rights, or what rights this form actually includes, as any record of it has apparently vanished.

Villagomez, through assistant public defenders Eden Schwartz and Michael Sato, made the motion to suppress any and all statements he made while in custody on Dec. 15, 2014. The hearing on the motion was held last March 25. Assistant attorney general Clayton Graef appeared for the government. According to court records, at the March 25, 2015, hearing, DFW officer Erwin Flores testified that DFW received a call from a concerned citizen on the night of Dec. 15, 2014, reporting that Villagomez had been fishing at Lau Lau Beach with a gill net, selling the fish, and using the proceeds to buy methamphetamine or "ice."

Flores said a special type of permit is required to use a gill net, and the fish caught is typically intended for large community events.

The concerned citizen also reported that Villagomez would bring a .22 rifle with him to Lau Lau Beach.

Flores investigated this tip by speaking to the concerned citizen, checking DFW records to see if the defendant had a permit for a gill net. He conducted surveillance on three separate dates: Dec. 9, 12, and 15, 2014.

On Dec. 9 and 12, Flores saw Villagomez using the gill net at Lau Lau Beach. On the evening of Dec. 15, his third surveillance, Flores, who was in an unmarked DFW vehicle, watched as Villagomez finish fishing and load his equipment into his truck.

As Villagomez left the beach, Flores drove up behind Villagomez, while two marked DFW vehicles stopped the defendant's truck from behind with a flash light, and he saw a gill net with fish in the bed of the truck.

Flores walked to the driver's

side window, told Villagomez that he was under arrest, and pulled him from the cab of the truck. Flores advised Villagomez of his rights, then the defendant was secured in the back seat of one of the marked DFW vehicles.

After this, Flores inspected the interior of the truck's cab, where he found receipts from two fish markets, some of which were inside the center console.

These receipts showed that fish had been sold to these markets but not how they were caught or by whom.

In addition, Flores found Q-tips, a needle/wire, lighters, and a pipe wrapped in a tissue that appeared to have a controlled substance on it.

Flores then asked Villagomez, who was still sitting in the back of the marked DFW vehicle, if the pipe belonged to him. The defendant replied, "Yes."

At the DFW office, Flores questioned Villagomez, using a constitutional rights form. Flores testified that he advised Villagomez of his rights. Villagomez chose not to say anything without an attorney.

At the suppression hearing on March 25, 2015, assistant public defender Schwartz moved for discovery of the constitutional advisement form.

This form was not found in the Office of the Attorney General's case file, nor was it in Flores' records.

Attorneys from both the OAG and the Public Defender's Office accompanied Flores to his office on March 25, 2015, where they were unable to locate this form.

In granting Villagomez's motion to suppress, Camacho said if a defendant has not been

properly warned of his rights, "the prosecution may not use any statements, whether exculpatory or inculpatory, stemming from custodial interrogation of the defendant."

Camacho said Villagomez was not in DFW custody until Flores pulled him from his truck and told him he was under arrest, and subsequently placed him in the back of a marked DFW vehicle.

Camacho said Villagomez was already sitting in the rear of the DFW vehicle when Flores asked him if the pipe found in the cab of the truck belonged to him.

Thus, Camacho said, the defendant was in custody at that time and Miranda warnings were required.

Camacho said in addition, when Flores questioned Villagomez at DFW, he was still in custody, and these Miranda warnings were required at that time as well.

The judge said based on the testimony of Flores, it is unclear what exact Miranda warnings were given, or whether the defendant acknowledged these rights and waived them.

Camacho said when the defendant was placed under arrest on the road, Flores indicated that he had advised him of his rights prior to asking him who owned the pipe found in the cab of the vehicle.

However, the judge said, based on the testimony provided, it is unclear whether the defendant "knowingly and intelligently waived" his rights on the road from Lau Lau.

Camacho said according to Flores' testimony, the defendant exercised his constitutional rights at DFW.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-15-016

WATER METER INSTALLATION, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for Water Meter Installation in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity work consists of removal/replacement of failed and non-functioning water meters on the CUC water system, installing meters for customers who do not currently have a water meter on their service line, and relocating water meters to the right-of-way. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC. The duration of the contract is one year (365 calendar days) from date of award with an option to extend for an additional year if exercised by CUC.

This project is funded by the USEPA and the US Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART Water & Energy Efficiency grant.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

One (1) original and Seven (7) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-15-016, Water Meter Installation, Saipan" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 20, 2015**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 4, 2015** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Nicolette Villagomez, CUC Water/Wastewater Junior Engineer - via email nicolette.villagomez@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, Jr.
Purchasing Officer



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-15-015

SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF TYPHOON RECOVERY MATERIALS

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Supply and Delivery of Typhoon Recovery Materials for CUC Power Division, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

CUC may award a contract to more than one firm for the materials, based on bids for "Commodity Groups".

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-15-015, Supply & Delivery of Typhoon Recovery Materials" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 27, 2015** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bid. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. All responses to this Invitation for Bids should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the bidder, awarded a contract.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. The award of a contract may be contingent upon the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) approval. If CPUC approval is required, the contract will not be executed by CUC until such approval is provided.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 11, 2015** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Alfredo Palattao, CUC Power Division Engineer via email alfredo.palattao@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

"ALWAYS ROCKIN!"

T
GALLERIA
DPS



Hard Rock
CAFE

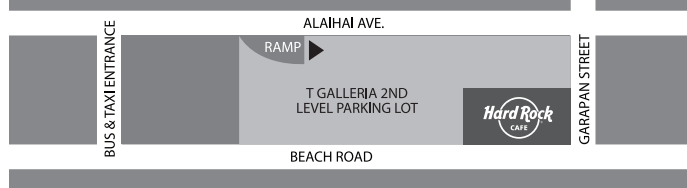
The Hard Rock Cafe
is open from 10:30am to 10:30pm daily with
the best parking on island - 129 parking stalls atop
the Galleria Mall next to the restaurant doors.

Enter ramp on Alaihi Avenue behind T-Galleria

**If on foot, enter through the southern end
of the T Galleria by the big guitar.**

Hard Rock Cafe is giving 10% discount on food and
merchandise to CNMI residents.

**Private Function Room for Special Events &
Special Group Menus and Discounts Available.**



Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

This campaign season, can we move beyond ideology?

Perhaps the scariest thing about humans is their profound discomfort with ambiguity, and their concomitant desire to know things for sure, to have all the answers, and to demand that others believe exactly as they do.

Ideology, it seems, is reasserting itself in a world that less than a generation ago appeared headed toward pluralism, tolerance and pragmatism, all bolstered by an unprecedented flow of free information that promised to render extremism obsolete.

Too bad it hasn't worked out that way. Unpacking his 40-year career as a foreign correspondent for the New York Times, John Burns recently concluded: "What those years bred in me, more than anything else, was an abiding revulsion for ideology, in all its guises."

Burns worked in some of the world's ugliest places, among them Soviet Russia, Mao's China, Afghanistan under the Taliban, South Africa under apartheid and North Korea under the Kim dynasty. "I learned that there is no limit to the lunacy, malice and suffering that can plague any society with a ruling ideology," Burns reflected.

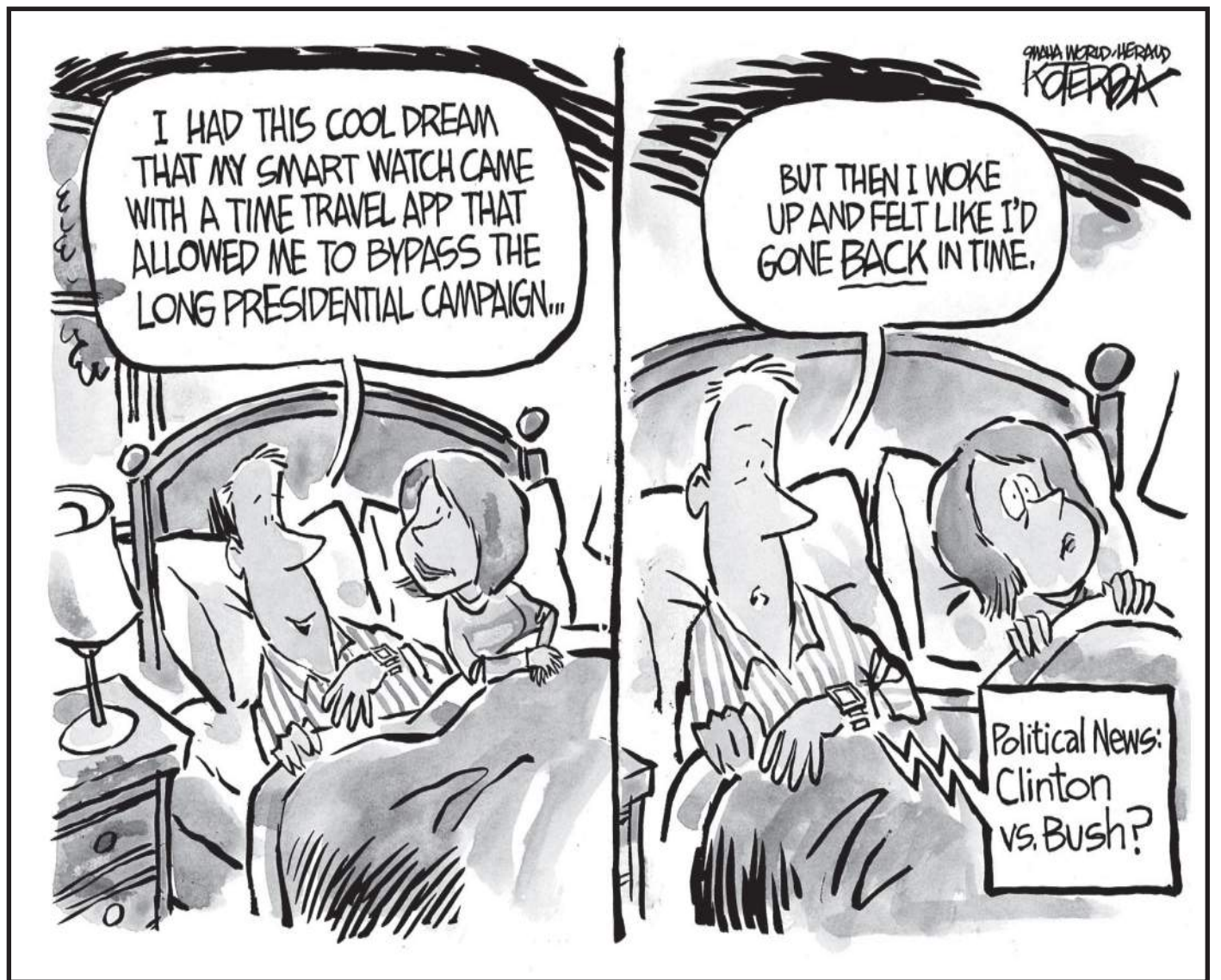
But even in the Britain and America to which he has now retired, Burns detects a frightening partisan rigidity. "It can be depressing beyond words," he wrote, "to hear the loyalists of a given political creed—whether left or right—adopt the unyielding certainties common in totalitarian states."

We agree. Screeds portraying government as a manifest evil are especially damaging because they taint even the most sensible government solutions. With national campaigns approaching, our fervent hope is that voters have grown weary of the threadbare recitations common to both parties and will instead demand pragmatic, creative and courageous approaches that bypass the tiresome interest groups. This campaign will be wasted if voters continue to hear (on the right) about the dreary social issues and the virtues of never, never raising taxes, and (on the left) about candidates "who will fight for people like you." Oh, please!

We yearn for an agenda that matches the nation's and the state's actual problems: Creating a wider prosperity; building an infrastructure that works; forging a coherent, sophisticated foreign policy; fostering a truly effective system for education and training; reforming the corrupt financing of campaigns, and devising serious policies on climate and energy. We long for solutions based on hard evidence, not ideological correctness.

It's encouraging that ideology has suffered a few setbacks lately, among them the opening to Cuba and the repudiation of state laws that protected the "religious freedom" to discriminate. This advice from candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton offers another positive signal that should spread throughout the campaigns in both parties: "Don't vote for anybody of any party anywhere in the country who proudly tells you they will never compromise."

(c) 2015 Star Tribune (Minneapolis)



Gurkha Nepali

I was in the Deccan Plateau in Maharashtra late '70s, aiming to segue northeast into the Ganges down to Calcutta and the Brahmaputra-Ganges delta that is famous for its monsoons, the former East Pakistan of the British Muslims in India at the partition before they decided that the dominant Bihari of West Pakistan keeps the "one nation" dream, and the East be Bengali in Bangladesh.

Dhaka was where I planned to head, wearing my *sando*, cutoff undershirt, in the wet heat of Bengal Bay. Gaia intervened with the fierce winds of the monsoon so I went back to Mumbai, touched down on Theravada Sri Lanka on a flight to Singapura where I watched Hakka Lee Kwan Yew discipline folks to plant trees and refrain from spitting to keep the city cool and clean!

I had another chance in the '80s to head for Dhaka and mosey over to the mists of Kathmandu some 600 miles away. By then, India's Sikkim by Bhutan's monarchy took mystical airs, and the old Pagan Empire across the Irrawaddy that became Myanmar in our time (and where our own Pagan might have derived its name) took on the magic of a forbidden land.

I did not make it up the hills where folks traverse the Mahayana path and follow the practice of yoga. It was more than 20 years later that I got to the other side of the Himalayas, and a trip to Lhasa in Xizang loomed more as a possibility while residing in China.

I made it to Sichuan on the foothills of the Himalayas up toward the Garze Autonomous Region, learning to *liuliude* in Kangding before the rains started washing down roads chiseled on the side of cliffs, carved by rivers that carried the waters from upland downpours. I took time to watch pandas nibble on bamboo shoots in forests at lower altitude while hightailing it down the plains.

A blue passport trekking up to Lhasa turned out to have limits on mobility as I was to join foreigners, occupy foreigners' hotels at foreigners' rates, a price not exactly conducive to a backpacking budget. I said "thank you" but "*buyong xie*."

That it would take this far to get to reflect on Gurkha land testifies to the sensitivity of the subject matter. Nepal was visited by a 7.8 tremor on the Richter scale (7.9 some claim, 40 percent more devastating) as India's plate burrows under the Himalaya.

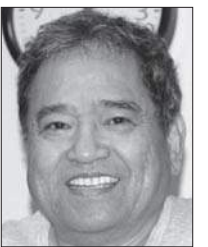
The devastating earthquake was not unexpected; geologists talked about its imminence a week before the actual event. Mount Everest is majestically up there and still heading way up. The inches of gains through the years since the last major shake-up in 1935 added up and really rattled the place big time this time!

This is like the San Andreas Fault's on the Pacific side. That the land mass will slide into the sea someday is not a matter of whether or not but a question of when. SF is the alternative option to mainstream rational American life and it operates with a laidback but

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



realistic *comme ci comme ca* attitude, not unlike that of Mexico City further south, which sits on an island in a crater lake of an extinct volcano, *que sera sera*. The Aztec culture that built Tenochtitlan knew life to be interrupted by volcanic explosions, and the *fiesta* was invented to schedule the event to vent pent-up emotions.

The devastation that recently visited Nepal caused extreme hardships and tears. Initially, it was estimated to be a loss of 3,000 lives but is now at 6,000, expected to reach 10,000. A loss of one life is enough for tears! Aftershocks trail the tears.

The region has roots in a life understanding of profound acceptance, mastered meditation, and deep tranquility, but the physical devastation and the loss of life remains a shock and assaults the victims' consciousness outside the bounds of ease.

In today's world, lard inhabits girth, flesh and bones resigns to aches and pains, but the anxiety level throttles the blood rush to extremely high pressure and consciousness pacified into quiet despair strips ancient certitudes and securities from equilibrium. We are not used to finitude and temporality; we escape to false comforts of momentary pleasures, dreams of paradise, delusions of heaven and illusions of forever.

The only comfort we can offer Nepal is objective truth. Earthquakes are stronger these days, and preliminary musings has the loosening of tectonic plates as more water is added to oceans from melting polar caps, no thanks to carbon emissions. Stronger earthquakes are expected, and human settlement will deign to live on the lid of the cauldron before it brews over.

We empathize with the brokenness not because we can crawl under people's skins but because we share in the brokenness of life itself. That brokenness is its wholeness, the spiritually astute claims. As Schultz' Lucy asked Charlie Brown: "Do you see any other life?" Charlie answers: "No." Lucy bellows: "Well, live in it then." For which she charges Charlie a fee of five cents!

One who is not afraid to die is either lying or a Gurkha, is an old saying. Inflation has since hit Lucy's five cents' stand, now easily five dollars! Send yours to Nepal! Make no mistake, though. Nepal shall overcome!

Poker phase out

After April 2, 2015, the government should have stopped issuing “new” or additional license for poker, pachinko, or similar amusement machines on Saipan as required by the same law that allowed an exclusive casino opera-

By JOEY ‘PEPE BATBON’ CONNOLLY
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Joey “Pepe Batbon” Connolly is a retired teacher and poet living on Tinian who taught English in CNMI public schools for the past 30 years. He has also taught in Alaska, New Orleans, and Las Vegas.



LITERARY NOOK

A love sonnet for the people of Tinian

By JOEY ‘PEPE BATBON’ CONNOLLY
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

The first sonnet here is a rhyming review of the U.S. military hearing (CNMI JMT EIS/OEIS) held on Tinian last Thursday, April 30, 2015. The U.S. military has been holding hearings for public input on bombing Pagan, amphibious landings, and live gunnery ranges on Tinian. The following is a love sonnet for the people of Tinian and a death sonnet on problems associated with monosodium glutamate.

TAOTAO TINIAN TRIUMPHANT

they came, they saw, they listened, and they talked
* manamko, * manaina, and *manhoben
and at the microphone none of them balked
for over two hours the mike was open
veterans spoke of loss of fishing ground
casino reps said air fare will increase
many said no to grenade bombs booming sounds
all felt that the gunnery would decrease the peace
underneath a flight path a dump for munition
many people took the zero alternative choice
virtually all were totally against live ammunition
as todu taotao Tinian spoke with one voice
raw emotions came out and emotions ran high
with Tinian threatened you need not wonder why

manamko (biyu): elder person
manaina: parents
manhoben: youth

AN ISLAND of PATHOS and MIRTH

I could look up at the sky and think again
right now though I think I have no need
since my *bisinu yan todu taotao Tinian
nourish my brain with thoughtful seed

I could read a sky world of make believe
and see occasional writing in it too
when jets, biplanes, and prop planes leave
contrails and signed notes up there in the blue

I could read the sky above and the mud below
in villages, towns, and great cities of the earth
but have to wonder why as down the road I go
todu taotao Tinian are filled with *pathos and *mirth

you too can read the sky just like an open book
*ekungok y korason miyu and take another look

(*bisinu yan todu taotao Tinian means
“neighbor and all the people of Tinian”)
(* pathos is an element in experience evoking compassion)
(* mirth is gladness accompanied with laughter)
(* ekungok y korason miyu means “listen to your heart”)

AJI? NO MO! POTFABOT

salty bites tastes and ignites
taste buds against food duds
salivation sensation soon excites
all the tongues tasting buds
MSG laboratory analysis
hooked up with sour and salty
may lead up to kidney dialysis
regardless if diagnosis faulty
so there is monosodium glutamate
disguised with something sweet
described as a complement
with something required to eat
does this start dietary death at an early age?
taste it and try it you'll begin the initial stage

tion on island. The starting date of Saipan’s poker industry phase out, albeit on a gradual basis, has come and gone quietly.

But it won’t be surprising if lawmakers would tinker with the idea of extending the April 2, 2015, cutoff or try to amend some other laws to accommodate longtime poker parlor operators.

Government collection from Saipan poker license fees is expected to drop even more significantly as a result of the phase out. But that hasn’t deterred Saipan lawmakers from appropriating future poker fees as if there would be more rather than less to go around.

They may be banking on the idea that a drop in poker license fee collection will be more than offset, supposedly, by government revenues associated with Best Sunshine International Ltd.’s \$7.1-billion exclusive integrated casino resort on Saipan.

But gross revenue tax from a Saipan casino operation—initially Best Sunshine’s live training facility at T Galleria in Garapan—is set aside for utilities subsidy, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., medical referral, land compensation payments and the Public School System.

The casino license fee, meanwhile, is mainly for retirees’ deferred 25 percent pension and for interest on defined benefit members’ withdrawn contributions.

Residents’ health and safety, however, are more important than the loss of revenue from poker license fees and taxes, according to the Governor’s Strategic Economic Development Council in 2008 when it recommended the elimination of all poker machines in the CNMI, except those in licensed casinos, by June 30, 2009.

Saipan lawmakers annually appropriate some \$3 million in poker license fees for scholarship funding under the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance or SHEFA program, and hundreds of thousands of dollars more for SHEFA personnel and operations.

Poker businesses pay \$12,500 per machine, which translates to at least \$3.75 million if there are at least 300 machines on Saipan. The number of licensed poker machines has dwindled in recent years.

Lawmakers appropriate the rest of the poker license fees for their respective precinct projects such as for the construction or repair of roads, basketball courts and bus stops, buying children’s playground equipment and installing light fixtures in villages, among other things. They almost always wrestle against each other for a bigger share of the poker license fee pie, and the public sees this time and again during sessions of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation.

Only time will tell whether future discussion on poker appropriation bills will even acknowledge a smaller pie as a result of the gradual phase out of the poker industry.

Revenue talks aside, Saipan has finally achieved what it has been aiming for several years. Community members and leaders have called for a poker industry phase out, citing the social ill effects of poker parlors that have taken root even in residential villages and school areas. Poker game rooms have become hot spots for crimes, such as robbery, illegal drug use, child neglect, and murders. Lots of them.

Nepal’s nightmare

By SAMRAT UPADHYAY
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Images coming out of Nepal’s devastating earthquake on Saturday reminded me of another earthquake of similar magnitude that occurred 81 years ago. That earthquake of 1934, or nabbey salko bhuichalo, as it was referred to throughout my childhood in Katmandu, had acquired an air of a legend, delivered in black-and-white photos of men and women in traditional garb standing amid the rubble.

But the 1934 earthquake, which killed more than 10,000 people, was a thing of the past, recalled by old folks, resurrected only in history books and works of fiction. History came alive on Saturday at 5 a.m. when I opened my laptop to write, in Bloomington, Ind., and saw the news.

I awoke my wife, who through bleary eyes looked at me in disbelief as I told her, “This is a big one.” The next few hours were spent in frantic attempts to contact our loved ones in Katmandu; first and foremost my parents, whose old age makes them vulnerable, and my wife’s mother, a widow, who lives in a tall building.

For many Nepali expatriates, attachment to the homeland is fierce. I love America, but Nepal is my home—it’s a landscape I have returned to in all of my novels and short stories. And every year I return in person, with my MFA students. Last year we went up to the Himalayan region of Mustang, where my students bathed in the icy cold water from the 108 springs around Muktinath Temple, situated at 12,000 feet. Throughout the trip I was moved by Nepal’s beauty and moved even more by the kindness of the Nepalis we encountered, from the old grandma who served us food at Hotel Bob Marley in Muktinath, to the hotel owner in the resort town of Pokhara who went out of his way to arrange transport for us.

That such calamity would befall such generous people is heart-rending. The initial quake on Saturday has been followed by countless aftershocks that have everyone panicked. Reports are coming in of entire villages laid waste in the mountains. My parents, with whom communication has been difficult because of erratic phone connections and lack of electricity, are camped out in rain on a small field near their home on the outskirts of Katmandu. My mother-in-law is staying with one of her daughters.

We had been warned. In the early ‘90s, when I returned to live in Nepal for two years, the country experienced mild earthquakes.

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
Special to the Saipan Tribune



Haidee V. Eugenio covered politics, immigration, environment, business and other news beats as a reporter for Saipan Tribune and other news media in the CNMI for 16 years.

And some sectors called for a poker industry phase out in exchange for supporting a Saipan casino industry. As early as 2012, for example, the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands expressed support for the legalization of casino gaming on Saipan but on four conditions that include a phase out of poker gambling on the island.

Section 2302(d) of the Saipan casino law, or Public Law 18-56, states: “After April 2, 2015, no new or additional licenses for poker, pachinko or similar amusement machines, but not including electronic gaming machines as defined in 6 CMC 3154(a)(4), shall be granted or allowed to operate outside of the approved casino establishment, hotel or La Fiesta within the Third Senatorial District.”

“The licenses issued for poker, pachinko, and similar amusement machines that began its operation prior to April 2, 2015, shall be allowed to continue operation in the Third Senatorial District,” the casino law adds.

Even the first two versions of the casino law called for a poker industry phase out, though the latest version has a more specific cutoff date. PL 18-38 gave a cutoff date of one year after the official approval and granting of an exclusive casino license. Weeks later, PL 18-43 amended this provision to clarify that electronic gaming machines in a casino, hotel or La Fiesta on Saipan are exempted from the prohibition on the issuance of new or additional license fees for poker, pachinko or similar machines.

Besides Saipan poker industry’s gradual phase out under the casino law, the government also has to enforce another cutoff date for poker operators to move away from schools and children’s playgrounds.

Saipan Local Law 18-5, signed in October 2013, requires existing poker operators currently within 200 feet of schools, churches, parks, playgrounds and laundry facilities to relocate within up to four years or up to 2017.

The law prohibited “new” poker parlors from operating within the 200-foot radius of schools, churches, parks, playgrounds and Laundromats on Saipan.

But then again, the local law also allows extension of such a 2017 deadline for affected existing poker businesses to relocate to areas approved for adult gaming machines, so everything is still possible. After all, Saipan’s zoning laws can be easily amended and we saw that happen last week.

Articles appeared in newspapers claiming that a major earthquake was imminent. The reason: movement of tectonic plates in the Himalayas, the very process that created those mountain peaks of stunning beauty in the first place. Concerns were raised about lack of preparedness, especially with the alarming growth of shoddily constructed buildings. But these prophesies of a major trembler didn’t come true. I was among those who thought the experts were exaggerating.

Now this. Thousands have lost their lives, many more have lost their homes, and centuries-old temples, prized for their exquisite carvings in Katmandu Valley’s old palace squares, have been destroyed. Katmandu Durbar Square is in ruins. Patan Durbar Square has been devastated. These were World Heritage sites, so, in a very literal sense, the whole world has lost physical access to its cultural history.

Last year my students took photos of erotic carvings in the Jagan Narayan Temple in Patan Durbar Square for Indiana University’s Alfred Kinsey Institute. That temple is now gone. In 2010 we climbed the Dharahara tower in central Katmandu for a panoramic view of this chaotic yet vibrant city. The tower, whose original structure dates to 1832, had collapsed in 1934 and was rebuilt. At the top I remember—now with horror—telling my students that the monument was vulnerable to another collapse because Nepal was so earthquake prone. On Saturday, Dharahara was reduced to a stump.

Nepalis, most of whom are Hindus and Buddhists, are well attuned to the idea that nothing is permanent. The champion of impermanence, Siddhartha Gautama Buddha, was born in Nepal. He also taught that life, by its very nature, is filled with suffering.

We Nepalis know suffering. We survived a century-long Rana oligarchy that had most of the country in rags, and the decades-long repressive Panchayat system that kept power in the hands of the king and the caste elites. The 1990 pro-democracy movement ushered in a constitutional monarchy—and then a civil war left thousands dead. Petty politicians have stymied efforts to make a new constitution.

But my people are also resilient. Already Nepalis are uniting to deal with this most recent tragedy. They are digging through the rubble for survivors.

“Feeling helpless,” my wife wrote on her Facebook page. When we have managed to connect, it’s our loved ones in Nepal who have reassured us, rather than the other way around: “Don’t worry, we’re fine. It’ll be OK.”

Samrat Upadhyay’s novel *The City Son*, set in Katmandu, is a finalist for the PEN Open Book Award. He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

CNMI PERSPECTIVES

Get a better understanding of what the military is proposing

By DAVID M. SABLAN SR.
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

I briefly attended the public hearing last Wednesday evening at Saipan Southern High School. I must admit I was deeply disturbed by the deportment and the apparent lack of respect to our guests at the hearing. For a moment, I thought I was at the Pacquiao-Mayweather boxing match with all the yelling and loud whistling by some of the audience.

I want to go on record that I support the use of a certain area of Pagan by the U.S. military for the specific purposes as stated in the EIS. As far as Tinian is concerned, the U.S. military leased a portion of that island during the time when we were concluding negotiations for the U.S. Commonwealth status in the mid-'70s.

As I looked around the crowd attending the public hearing at Koblerville, there were not many who witnessed

the Invasion of Saipan in June 1944 as I did. I was 12 years old then, and I don't ever want to see another war. However, if we were forced to engage in a war, we must be fully prepared to *defend ourselves, our land, our country, and the freedom that we all enjoy.*

We look to "Uncle Sam's military might" to provide us the assurance that we will continue to enjoy peace and tranquility throughout our life. It is for that reason that we must make sacrifices and "give a little" so that our young men and women in uniform receive the proper military training they need so they can defend all of us in times of conflict.

The Environmental Impact Statement sponsored by the military took several years to complete. It is imperative that our elected leaders find time to read the EIS and fully understand its objectives. I heard that our leaders are asking to be given six months to review the EIS. Yet some of them have formed opinions in an effort to



U.S. Marines' cemetery on Saipan in 1945.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

block what the military is trying to accomplish. *I strongly urge that our elected leaders and other members of the community meet within the time allowed so they have a well-rounded understanding of the overall effect of what the military wishes to accomplish.*

There have been opinions expressed that are rather puzzling to me. MVA, for instance, is concerned that the military activities on Tinian and Pa-

gan will distort the tourism economy. Let's look at Guam. Guam is presently enjoying over a million tourist arrivals each year, and Guam has military bases with thousands of military personnel stationed there. We need to do a comprehensive study of our economic situation and make changes as needed. We must learn to live side-by-side with the military.

The CNMI and Guam are on the "first line of defense" in

the Pacific area. On the western side of Saipan (Philippine Sea), there are grey-colored ships anchored for the past 10 or so years. Have you ever wondered why they are there? If you watch CNN News on Cable TV, you will occasionally see North Korea showing off its "military might" including its missile capability. What guarantee do we have that NK won't test their missiles aimed at the U.S. Commonwealth of the Mariana Islands?

If you were on Saipan during the invasion in June 1944, I am sure you will also favor the need to have our military personnel "combat ready."

The photo above left is one of the three U.S. military cemeteries on Saipan where the brave men of the U.S. armed forces who were killed during the invasion of Saipan in 1944 were buried. These brave men gave their lives so we may live and enjoy life.

I do not need to elaborate about the millions of dollars that Uncle Sam has given us

CNMI PERSPECTIVES

The impending militarization of the Commonwealth

This is an occasional addendum to the *Saipan Tribune's* Opinion section, soliciting the viewpoints, opinions, and thoughts of experts, academics, and members of the public on a specific topic.

every year. What have we given them to show our appreciation thus far? Nothing that I can remember! This is the very reason why I am carefully supporting the military proposal; to reciprocate for what they have done to free all of us.

Now the military is planning to use an isolated, specific spot in Pagan to improve their capability to defend us. I strongly urge our elected leaders to look into the military needs and see if their proposal is warranted and minimize the adverse effect of their training in Pagan. Read the EIS and have a better understanding of what the military is proposing.

David M. Sablan Sr. is a former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

Unit of measurement

By STEVEN JOHNSON
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

This past week, the people of the CNMI have been given a chance to voice their thoughts, opinions, and emotions as they pertain to the activities proposed by the CNMI Joint Military Training Plan, or CJMT. The CJMT is a 1,388-page long document, with appendices A through S. In addition to the EIS and its appendices, the Department of the Navy has a 94-page requirements and siting study that was published in 2013. All in all, this amounts to over 5,000 pages. However, as daunting as this may sound, it is merely just the tip of the proverbial iceberg. The CJMT builds off of a whole slew of military alphabet-soup documents (i.e., the MIRC, the MITT, etc.). Each plan contains its own set of appendices and requirement and siting study, adding more and more pages. As you combine all of these documents to put together the puzzle that is the U.S.

military's plan for our islands you end up with thousands upon thousands of pieces.

In the interest of being fair, honest, and transparent, the U.S. military has granted a public comment period. The public comment period is open from April 3, 2015, through June 3, 2015. During this public comment period, three public hearings have been scheduled: two on Saipan and one on Tinian. Each public hearing consists of a 2-hour block to provide verbal comments; a three-minute time limit is given to each speaker. Accounting for time between speakers, breaks and technical difficulties that may happen, we can conservatively estimate that 15-20 minutes might not go toward actual commenting.

Time for some simple math: 3 public hearings x (2 hours - 15 minutes) = **315 minutes** available for verbal comments. 315 minutes sets us up for some interesting math. First we can divide this number by the 3 minutes allocated to each speaker and you get **105 speakers**. The CNMI has

a population of **53,883** people. 105 is **less than 1/2 of 1 percent** of our entire population. Granted, this number includes infants and the bedridden, but it is still an impossibly tiny fraction of our voices—a whisper of a whisper.

Next, let us take those 315 minutes and see how much time that gives us per page of the CJMT EIS (and we won't include the MIRC or the MITT or any reference material). $5000/315 = 15.87$, or **~16 pages per minute** of verbal comment. That means each speaker would be expected to cover 48 pages of EIS during their comment.

But let's all be honest with each other. These are the units of measurement that matter. We know that it's not about the details littered throughout the pages. It's not about finding the error on page F-235, section 7.10.12. The number of public hearings and time we've been given to comment and speak are not the important units of measurement.

On the night of the first public hearing for the CJMT,

I signed up to give my public comment. During my allotted 3 minutes I chose to comment on the manner in which the U.S. military conducted their marine resource surveys and said that these surveys were done "behind our backs." For context, let's set the stage: In 2013 a team of contractors was hired to collect information on the reefs that are being considered for training use. The military applied for and received the appropriate permits from the local Division of Fish & Wildlife. They were open about their intent when applying for the permits. The contractors, made up of scientists based out of Florida, Fiji, Hawaii, American Samoa and Guam, came in quietly and conducted their work on Tinian. They went up to Pagan and conducted their work quietly. No harm, no foul.

Clearly, this is not a point of controversy. Local officials knew that military contractors would be on island. But I would like to introduce a unit of measurement that I think is the most useful and insightful

for us—it is called the "bare minimum." This is a unit of measurement that matters.

In an interview with the media following the first public hearing, Marine Corps Forces Pacific executive director Craig B. Whelden stated the he wanted to set the record straight. He stated that "often-times we have CNMI people participating with us on the surveys." The *Marianas Variety* goes on to report that, "He [Whelden] said they sent out letters to the mayors, to the governor, and governmental officials on each and every survey they conducted over the last two years." Again, this is true (<http://www.mvariety.com/cnmi/cnmi-news/local/56680-marines-to-start-field-surveys-on-tinian-pagan-this-month>). This is, however, something that I feel can be measured simply with one term: the bare minimum.

What bothers me, and I can only imagine it doesn't sit well with a lot of people in the CNMI, is why would you only strive for the bare minimum? Why not hold a public meet-

ing to discuss the work being done at the time it was being conducted? Why didn't you make this an open process with stakeholder engagement? Why weren't local students given an opportunity to be involved so they can learn and expand their knowledge about their own natural resources? Why the aversion to the giving as much time as possible to working with the people of the CNMI?

My list of questions can go on and on, but that isn't an important measure of what's wrong. In Pacific Island culture it is often thought that it is not what one says that matters, but more importantly, it's what one doesn't say that matters—actions. In a place where actions count for so much, it feels as though you're settling for the bare minimum. Instead of doing the most, you're saying the least. Is this what you're willing to accept as a good job? Is that how you measure the worth of our islands and its people? With the bare minimum?

Steven Johnson is marine biologist with the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality.

Renegotiate the Covenant to our advantage

By DIEGO C. BLANCO
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

The United States is a big place. Besides the U.S. 50 states, the territories, and the insular areas, the U.S. has capability and influence around the world, enough to buy or negotiate the use of a wide range of training grounds. Meanwhile, we,

the indigenous people of the CNMI, have only these islands to call home. We don't have a huge continent. We don't have strategic allies around the world. We don't have trillions of dollars to lease any land we want around the world.

Our unique NMD culture is held in our minds and souls wherever we are, but the root of our culture is the land of these islands. We have no oth-

er place. We have seen these lands ruined multiple times by colonial and wartime ambitions of foreign powers. Most recently, the Japanese and the Americans fought bloody battles on these islands, and the indigenous people were nothing more than inconvenient obstacles when outsiders made our peaceful islands into a battleground. Most of our parents or grandparents

can remember the horrors of bombs exploding around us, and not only land but also our beloved families killed by "live fire" and "bombing runs."

So how could you ever expect us NMDs to support using our islands for bombing runs and mass destruction yet again? Our memories of war are fresh. And we have no other place.

Like most NMDs, I have friends and family who have served and are serving in the US military. How can this same military that recruits so many of our young people then turn around and bomb these young people's homeland?

Live fire and exploding bombs are a very visible and obvious example of something that often happens less visibly and less obviously:

the destruction of our people and culture by a Covenant relationship that favors the superpower over the islanders. It's time for us NMDs to stop being lapdogs of the war machine. They want to destroy our islands; what next? It's time to seriously consider renegotiating the Covenant, and making things work to our advantage for once, instead of to our deadly disadvantage.

2015 Marianas March Against Cancer

PHOTOS BY
JAYSON CAMACHO



Cancer survivors gather together for a recognition ceremony at the 2015 Marianas March Against Cancer.



Cancer survivors start their lap at the 2015 Marianas March Against Cancer.



Luminaries line up the field at the 2015 Marianas March Against Cancer.



Pacific Islands Club presents their team at the 2015 Marianas March Against Cancer.



Team Korason with their families and their heart-shaped baton at the 2015 Marianas March Against Cancer.




Chacha Oceanview Junior High School students dress as farmers at the 2015 Marianas March Against Cancer.

Team Dandan Middle School and Precision Medical Imaging at the 2015 Marianas March Against Cancer.



Team IT&E and Saipan Southern High School team up at the 2015 Marianas March Against Cancer.



 Team Bodig wins best tent at the 2015 Marianas March Against Cancer.



Team Tan Holdings and Kagman High School wins the Rising Star award at the 2015 Marianas March Against Cancer.



A young cancer survivor receives a medallion from 2015 MMAC committee member Nora Sablan.



CNMI government team wins the non-profit/government category for most money raised at the 2015 Marianas March Against Cancer.



Team Bodig wins the most spirit award at the 2015 Marianas March Against Cancer.



Pacific Islands Club wins the corporate category for most money raised at the 2015 Marianas March Against Cancer.



Mariana Resort and Spa, Hopwood Junior High School, and the U.S. Marine Corps win the most laps at the 2015 Marianas March Against Cancer.



Team Talaabwoh StaR wins best baton at the 2015 Marianas March Against Cancer.



Team Bodig wins the most luminaries sold at the 2015 Marianas March Against Cancer.



Mount Carmel School wins the school category for most money raised at the 2015 Marianas March Against Cancer.



The 2015 Marianas March Against Cancer committee.

17th Annual Taste of the Marianas

PHOTOS BY JAYSON CAMACHO



Marianas Visitors Authority officials, lawmakers, Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands members, and other government officials cut the ribbon for the opening of the 2015 Taste of Marianas at the American Memorial Park.



MVA, government officials, tourism stakeholders, and lawmakers take a group photo for *Saipan Tribune*.



The Thai House Restaurant booth at the 17th Annual Taste of the Marianas.



The Tropical Chill booth at the 17th Annual Taste of the Marianas.



Coral Ocean Golf Resort booth at the 17th Annual Taste of the Marianas.



The Hyatt Regency Saipan's booth at the 17th Annual Taste of the Marianas.



The Mariana Resort and Spa booth at the 17th Annual Taste of the Marianas.



The Pacific Islands Club booth at the 17th Annual Taste of the Marianas.



Visitors and community members enjoy their food and drinks at the opening of the 17th Annual Taste of the Marianas.



D'Elegance Café's booth at the 17th Annual Taste of the Marianas.



The Furusato Restaurant booth at the 17th Annual Taste of the Marianas.



The Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan booth at the 17th Annual Taste of the Marianas.



Children's category winners pose with MVA marketing manager Bruce Bateman, far left, and MVA's Ryan Calvo after the hotdog eating competition.



Local dancers perform Tahitian dances at the 17th Annual Taste of the Marianas.

Adults eat their hotdogs in different ways to vie for the top prizes.

Competitors in the kid's division of the hotdog eating contest chow down on their hotdogs at the 17th Annual Taste of the Marianas.

Young girls performing Chuukese dances at the 17th Annual Taste of the Marianas.



Adults category winners pose with MVA staff and marketing manager Bruce Bateman, far left, after the hotdog eating competition.



A Chinese lion dance blesses the venue at the 17th Annual Taste of the Marianas opening.



The Tony Roma's/Capricciosa booth at the 17th Annual Taste of the Marianas.

Everest Kitchen hosts dinner fundraisers for Nepal



FRAULEINE MICHELLE S. VILLANUEVA

Everest Kitchen held dinners last weekend and will be holding another one this week to raise funds for Nepal quake victims. More than 7,000 people were affected by the magnitude 7.8 quake that shook the country last April 25.

By FRAULEINE MICHELLE

S. VILLANUEVA

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REPORTER

It started with the love of Nepalese food. But after the devastating magnitude 7.8 earthquake that hit Nepal last week, food became a way to help the thousands of victims.

Everest Kitchen held dinners last Saturday and yesterday to raise funds for donation.

Although not its usual restaurant hours, owner Laxmi Shrestha was glad to prepare weekend dinners for those who want to help her people.

At first, she was only planning to rely on the tips that they were receiving since last week to donate to the quake victims. But with the idea and promised support of usual customers Dr. Janet McCullough-Stearns and Dr. Anne Erhard, they held dinners to be able to collect more money for donation.

"I didn't expect to have sup-

port like this," Shrestha said.

"We encouraged her to do this and we knew that a lot of people would want to come and help. We helped spread the word; that's all we did," McCullough-Stearns said.

"We've been coming here to eat for a long time and we know Laxmi and Elina [Chhetri] and when we heard that they're doing a fundraiser it just seemed like a very natural way to participate," said Erhard.

Last Saturday, 43 persons went to support their fundraising dinner while 25 persons made reservations for yesterday.

They will also hold another dinner next week.

"People were really supportive and they want to help... People who couldn't come tonight wanted to come another night," said Erhard.

For \$25, each person can have their tummies filled with the array of food the restaurant prepared for the buffet like dal

soup, pumpkin curry, steamed fish, samosa, hummus with pita bread, and saffron rice, and also have their hearts filled with the thought that they did something good for the quake victims.

"It's a plus to have really nice food, at the same time we also know that we are able to contribute and the funds will go to help some of the victims," said McCullough.

Shrestha said she will only be deducting costs of the main ingredients she needed for the dinner and the rest will be donated.

"There are three organizations that we are choosing," Shrestha said.

These are Oxfam International, CARE, and Global Giving.

"These were the three that were highly recommended and really legitimate and good organizations so we know that the money going there will go to the victims," Erhard said.

China-based investors visit Mayor's Office

By JAYSON CAMACHO

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REPORTER

Officials of Bo Sea Corp., a China-based investor from Henan province, introduced themselves to the Saipan Mayor's Office last Friday, presenting a gift to Mayor David M. Apatang and announcing that they have purchased a hotel in Garapan that will soon have more than \$5 million investments for an e-gaming facility and a restaurant.

Although they didn't want to disclose the name of the hotel they have purchased, owner Yibo Hu said they would disclose that information after the final transaction this June.

Hu said they made their purchase on April 20, 2014. They have yet to meet with Gov. Eloy S. Inos and plan to see him at their next visit in June.

"We appreciate that you gave us this opportunity to meet with you. This is my seventh time to visit Saipan and I am very interested in doing business here. On April 20, I bought a hotel on Beach Road and want to further my investments on Saipan," Hu told Apatang.

"I want to also bring more investors to Saipan. The hotel that we purchased, we want to invest more than \$5 million before the end of this year to build an e-gaming casino game room and renovate and build a restaurant in the hotel," he added.

Hu said the first stage process is their \$5 million investment in the 52-room hotel. Hu noted that the investment amount may increase and add



Mayor David M. Apatang holds his gift from Bo Sea Corp., a China-based company investing on Saipan. Joining Apatang, from left to right, are Bo Sea Corp. vice general manager Lina He, owner Yibo Hu, general manager Yongjie Wang, and Mayor's Office special assistant Henry Hofschneider.

JAYSON CAMACHO

more rooms. Aside from the e-gaming facility, they plan to have marine sports across the hotel and possibly a port.

"We plan to do marine sports as well on the beach and planning to build a port if possible," Hu said.

Apatang told them that they need to talk with regulatory agencies and other related government agencies before any deal is set.

Within five years Bo Sea Corp. plans to bring \$15 million to the CNMI to build a hotel with more than 250 rooms, Hu said.

Apatang was pleased upon hearing Bo Sea Corp.'s plans for Saipan.

"That is very good, we welcome new investors and really appreciate you for coming here and on your next visit please inform us in advance so we can

give assistance," Apatang said.

Hu said this is just the group's first visit.

On June 29, he plans to bring members of the Commerce Association of China and he hopes that Apatang might help them in the process.

"Next time the group of investors that will visit will be interested in business of hotel, tourism, real estate and construction. We will stay longer and get serious and talk with the governor and mayor. By then if necessary, I hope that you [Apatang] can assist us in getting to know Saipan better and help us in our investment," Hu said.

Hu said that Bo Sea Corp. is a subsidiary of a China-based company called Henan Da-Heshi Entity.

Apatang said that he will try and assist in any way he can.

Piano concert held to benefit children in Chuuk

By FRAULEINE MICHELLE S. VILLANUEVA

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REPORTER

Good music and good intentions were the main points of Yonsei Academy's seventh annual piano concert on Saturday at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center, with some 60 students showcasing their talents to raise funds for the children of Chuuk.

That state of Micronesia suffered significant damage from Typhoon Maysak in March.

Although of young age themselves, the students did not lack the gift to be able to share what they have for the benefit of others.

"I appreciate and I'm happy of the students' work. It's such a valuable thing because they worked so much to help the Chuukese children," music teacher Youngmi Han said.

Han said she wants to teach her students not only about music but also the values they

should have.

The program was divided into two sections, according to the grade level of the students. First to eighth grade students performed in Section I while the ninth to 12th grade performed in the latter, which is more technical.

"They are very young but there is a high level of perseverance," Han added.

You Na Lee, who started the night of music with Johann Sebastian Bach's *Toccata in D Minor* and later played Ludwig van Beethoven's *Sonata Pathétique*, was glad to be able to help through her talent.

"I think it is a really great experience and I'm really honored to be part of the Yonsei annual concert," Lee said.

Other pieces performed include Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov's *Flight of the Bumblebee* by Bae Ju Hwan and Kevin Rhee, Pachelbel's *Canon in D Major* by Brian Youn, Yiruma's



FRAULEINE MICHELLE S. VILLANUEVA

Students of Yonsei Academy, together with their teacher Youngmi Han, pose after their performance at their 7th annual piano concert. Proceeds of the event will be donated to the children of Chuuk, which was hit by Typhoon Maysak.

River Flows in You by Myung-jae Cho, and Richard Clayderman's *Ballade Pour Adeline* by Seyoung Kim.

Aside from the classics, original soundtrack music pieces

were also played like *He's a Pirate* from the movie *Pirates of the Caribbean* and *Inochi No Namae* from *Spirited Away*.

Gold medalists from Guam's Tumon Bay Music Festival as

well as members of the Commonwealth Hospital and Medical Center's Music Service and the Saipan Junior Choir also had their moment at the event.

According to Han, the pro-

ceeds of the concert will be used to buy rice for Chuukese children.

Last year, Yonsei Academy raised \$625 for typhoon victims in the Philippines.

Nation

Experts: Convictions will be tough to win in Baltimore case

BALTIMORE (AP)—Baltimore's top prosecutor acted swiftly in charging six officers in the death of Freddie Gray, who suffered a grave spinal injury as he was arrested and put into a police transport van, handcuffed and without a seat belt.

But getting a jury to convict police officers of murder and manslaughter will be far harder than obtaining arrest warrants.

Legal experts say the case is fraught with challenges. A widely shown video that captured the nation's attention shows Gray, 25, being loaded into the van, but not what happened once he was inside. Other than the accused officers, the only known witness is a convicted criminal later placed in the van's other holding cell, unable to see what was happening with Gray.

State's Attorney Marilyn J. Mosby announced the charges Friday amid a backdrop of a city in turmoil—four days after public anger over Gray's death triggered riots, with heavily armed

troops enforcing a nightly curfew, and the day before protest marches that drew thousands.

By bringing charges less than two weeks after Gray's death, Mosby, 35, said her decision showed "no one is above the law."

"To the people of Baltimore and the demonstrators across America: I heard your call for, 'No justice, no peace,'" the prosecutor said. "Your peace is sincerely needed as I work to deliver justice on behalf of this young man."

Within hours, the city's police union questioned the prosecutor's impartiality, accusing her of a rush to judgment and demanding she recuse herself from the case.

Even some of those who support Mosby's stand worry further violence might erupt if she fails to win convictions.

Alan Dershowitz, a well-known criminal lawyer from New York and professor emeritus at Harvard Law School, suggested that Mosby's actions

were motivated more by political expediency and short-term public safety than strong evidence. He called the charges "outrageous and irresponsible," especially a second-degree murder count filed against the van's driver under a legal principle known as "depraved heart."

"The decision to file charges

was made not based on considerations of justice, but on considerations of crowd control," Dershowitz said Saturday.

A call Saturday to Mosby's spokeswoman for comment was not answered, and her voicemail box was not accepting messages.

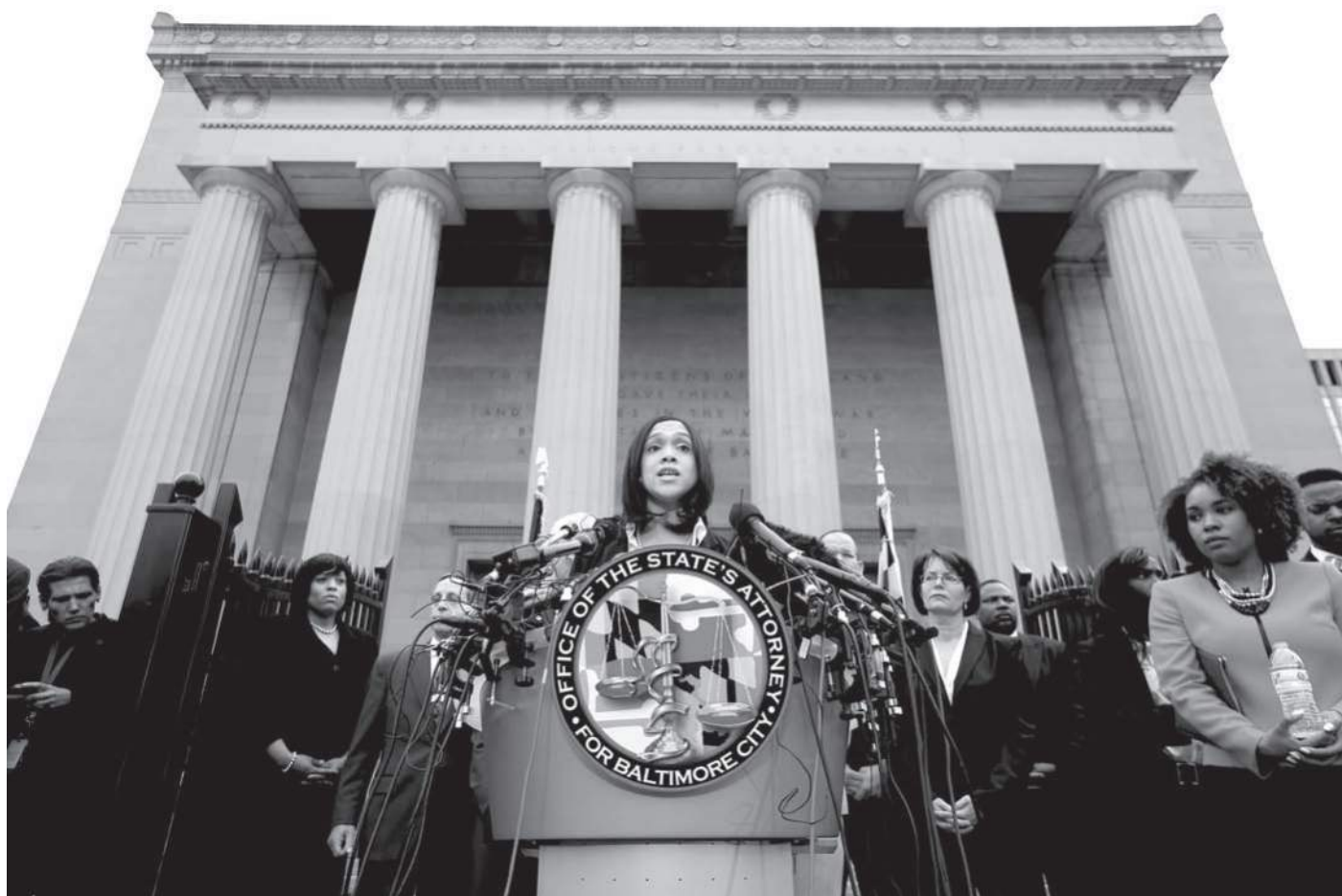
Regardless of the motiva-

tion, the announcement of the charges immediately shifted the prevailing mood on the city's streets from one of rage to relief.

To win a conviction, city prosecutors will have to convince a jury that van driver Caesar Goodson acted so recklessly that he knew his actions could take Gray's life. The classic example

often taught in law schools is that a person who drops a flower pot off the balcony of a skyscraper onto a busy sidewalk below, or someone who fires a gun into a crowded bus.

"That's really the sort of shocking charge," said Andrew Alperstein, a Baltimore defense attorney and former prosecutor.



In this Friday, May 1, 2015 file photo, Marilyn Mosby, Baltimore's top prosecutor, speaks during a news conference in Baltimore.

ACROSS THE NATION

NYPD plainclothes officer shot in head; suspect arrested

NEW YORK (AP)—A plainclothes New York City police officer was shot in the head and critically injured while in an unmarked police car Saturday as he and his partner attempted to stop and question a man they suspected of carrying a gun, officials said. Officer Brian Moore and his partner, Erik Jansen, noticed Demetrius Blackwell "walking and adjusting an object in his waistband" when they pulled up on him in their car, exchanging words with him before he turned and suddenly fired at least two rounds into the car, police Commissioner William Bratton said. "The man immediately removed the firearm from his waistband and turned in the direction of the officers and deliberately fired several times at the vehicle, striking Officer Moore in the head," Bratton said at a press conference at a Queens hospital. The 25-year-old Moore was undergoing surgery but listed in stable condition.

US decides not to investigate Toyota unwanted acceleration

DETROIT (AP)—U.S. safety regulators have rejected a Rhode Island man's request for an investigation into low-speed unintended acceleration problems with Toyota Corolla compact cars. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, in documents posted on its website Saturday, said it put over 2,000 miles on a 2010 Corolla owned by Bob Ruginis, of Bristol, Rhode Island.

But the agency's Ohio test lab could not find any problems with the throttle or transmission systems. The lab also found that the brakes could keep the car stationary even at full throttle. The decision is a victory for Toyota, which has been dogged by complaints of unwanted acceleration since 2009. The complaints brought investigations and recalls totaling 10 million vehicles, as well as multiple lawsuits and a \$1.2 billion penalty for hiding information from NHTSA.

Man, 88, gives up license after crash that killed wife

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP)—An 88-year-old father of six from Connecticut pleaded no contest to a traffic charge in a fatal car crash that killed a pregnant woman and his wife of 67 years. Robert Carroll, a businessman from Bristol, entered the plea Friday to failing to obey a traffic signal and agreed to surrender his driver's license. He was also fined \$75. Carroll had been charged with manslaughter, assault, failure to wear a seatbelt, and other counts, but his plea meant the end of the case, The Hartford Courant reported. Police said Carroll turned left in his Buick at a red light and crashed into a minivan on Route 6 in Farmington in 2013. The crash killed 27-year-old Melinda Hart, the driver of the minivan and a mother of three, and Carroll's 86-year-old wife, Ruth. Hart was eight months pregnant. Carroll suffered a broken leg, and three children in Hart's minivan also were hurt.

Honolulu food festival explores the wonders of canned meat

HONOLULU (AP)—In Hawaii, Spam rules. No, not the kind that you get in your email, but the kind you eat—or don't eat, as it may be for many mainlanders.

To honor Spam lovers in Hawaii, Hormel Foods released a new flavor—Portuguese sausage Spam—exclusively for the state at the Spam Jam street festival on Saturday in Honolulu. The flavor, which was available to sample at the event, may eventually be sold elsewhere in the region and internationally, the company says.

Gaby Kim, who grew up in Oahu, said she eats Spam often and always has. "I grew up eating Spam musubi a lot from 7-Eleven," she said. "It's kind of ghetto but it's good. I like the cheese one."

Spam musubi, a sushi-inspired variation, is one of the more popular forms in Hawaii. It consists of a slab of Spam, rice and sesame seeds tied in seaweed.

Many people have theories about what the name Spam actually means, but no one really knows. Many believe the name is short for "spiced ham." Others might say it stands for "shoulders of pig and ham."

But Hormel won't answer the question, saying on its

website that the true meaning is known by only a small circle of former executives, and "probably Nostradamus."

Ken Daigneau, the brother of one of the founding executives for the Spam product, won \$100 in a contest for naming the canned meat in 1937 when it was first introduced, according to the company website.

They say the meat is not such a mystery. They list the ingredients as pork, salt, water, potato

starch, sugar and sodium nitrate.

The meat does, however, have a meaning in Hawaii. To tens of thousands in the Aloha State, it's like steak and potatoes, pasta and sauce, fish and chips, or hot dogs.

The history behind the salty luncheon meat in Hawaii goes back to World War II when the company started shipping it to military personnel stationed in the islands. Spam did not need to be refrigerated, so it could

be shipped to the state without spoiling during the long journey from the mainland.

Spam quickly cross-pollinated from the military population into the local diet, and its popularity has grown ever since.

Now, Spam can be found pretty much everywhere that serves food in Hawaii: gas stations, local markets, diners and even in Hawaii's fast-food chains such as McDonald's and Burger King.

Small, midsize SUVs drive April US auto sales gains

DETROIT (AP)—In April of 2014, the compact Chevrolet Cruze outsold the Equinox midsize SUV by more than a thousand vehicles. A year later, the Equinox trounced the Cruze by nearly 8,000 in sales.

Those numbers pretty much sum up the shift in attitude among U.S. auto buyers: as they increasingly fall in love with SUVs, small and midsize cars are having a harder time getting a date.

SUVs and trucks powered U.S. auto sales to a 4.6 percent gain last month, with several automakers reporting their strongest April sales ever. The stylish and practical new SUVs

are pulling people away from cars, forcing automakers to discount sedans and even furlough workers to control growing inventories.

A big drop in gas prices, to an average of \$2.60 a gallon from \$3.69 a year ago, also works in favor of SUVs.

The Equinox posted a 42 percent sales increase to almost 29,000 in April, while Cruze sales fell nearly 4 percent to just under 21,000. Both vehicles are made by General Motors.

The trend played out in other automakers' results. Ford's revamped midsize Edge SUV posted a 78 percent gain while Focus compact sales fell 5 per-

cent. Honda's CR-V, the top-selling SUV, posted a 3 percent gain to more than 29,000, outselling the midsize Accord sedan, which saw sales drop 20 percent.

"The demand for crossover SUVs is off the charts," said Bill Fay, a group vice president at Toyota, which posted record April sales of the RAV4 and Highlander SUVs. Still, loyal followers weren't so quick to abandon Toyota's bread-and-butter vehicles. Sales of the Corolla compact grew 10 percent, and even though Camry midsize car sales fell from last April, it remained the top-selling car in America.

World

Nepal shuts down its only international airport to big jets

KATHMANDU, Nepal (AP)—Despite dire need by millions, earthquake-hit Nepal on Sunday was forced to close its only international airport to big airplanes flying in relief supplies and aid workers because the only runway can't handle the strain of the stream of large aircraft flying in to help.

Medium and small-size jets will still be allowed to land, officials said.

It is only the latest complication in global efforts to aid people suffering in the wake of the April 25 quake, the impoverished country's biggest and most destructive in eight decades.

People in Nepal—both in remote villages and the capital, Kathmandu—have complained about not seeing any rescue workers or international aid and about a lack of temporary shelters, with many sleeping out in the open because of fears of aftershocks bringing down their damaged homes.

Birendra Shrestha, the manager of Tribhuvan International Airport, located on the outskirts of Kathmandu, said bigger planes were banned because the

runway was deteriorating. The runway was built to handle only medium-size jetliners and not the large military and cargo planes that have been flying to the airport since the magnitude-7.8 earthquake struck, he said.

The last week has seen a steady procession of big jets trying to fly in goods and relief workers, as well as a swarm of journalists, but the small airport has parking slots for only nine jets and only one runway.

There have been reports of cracks on the runway and other problems at the only international airport in Nepal and the only one capable of handling jetliners.

One week after the quake, aid has been slow in reaching those who need it most. In many places, it has not come at all.

U.N. humanitarian officials said Saturday that they were increasingly worried about the spread of disease. They said more helicopters were needed to reach isolated mountain villages that were hard to access even before the quake.

The true extent of the damage from the earthquake is still unknown as reports keep filter-



A Nepalese truck with a Red Cross flag drives through the streets of Kathmandu, Nepal, Sunday, May 3, 2015.

ing in from remote areas, some of which remain entirely cut off. The U.N. says the quake

affected 8.1 million people—more than a quarter of Nepal's 28 million people.

Hundreds of families trapped by fighting in Yemen's Aden

SANAA, Yemen (AP)—Hundreds of families are trapped in their homes by weeks of fierce fighting in the center of the southern city of Aden, running short of supplies—their only lifeline coming from volunteers making dangerous runs across the city's harbor in rickety boats bearing food and medicine.

Their plight is just one level of the misery wreaked on Aden, once Yemen's commercial hub, by a month of unrelenting urban warfare as Shiite rebels and their allies in the military try to capture the city, battling with local militiamen as warplanes from a Saudi-led coalition pound the city with airstrikes trying to stop the rebel advance.

Infrastructure in the city, once home to a million people, has been systematically destroyed, whether in ground fighting by the two sides or by airstrikes. Wheat is scarce after grain silos at the port were destroyed by airstrikes after the rebels, known as Houthis, took refuge in them—leaving city bakeries with shortages of flour. Other strikes have pounded hotels and schools—even the city's main shopping mall—used as gathering points of Houthis and their allies. Aden's main hospital was stormed by militias, snatching some people receiving treatment as doctors and patients fled, according to the U.N.

"They are starving us," said

Mohammed Mater, a resident who has been trapped in his home for weeks along with his wife and seven children, with no electricity or running water. They have been surviving, he said, on canned tuna, dates and rice. As he spoke by phone to The Associated Press, his 4-year-old daughter Aisha interrupted him in the background, asking, "How long the war will take? Will snipers leave the hill?"

Mater's family is among thousands unable to leave their homes in the city's worst battleground neighborhoods, located in the city center. Downtown Aden is located on a peninsula jutting into the Arabian Sea, connected to the mainland by a

narrow isthmus—largely controlled by the combined forces of the Houthis and their allies, troops loyal to ousted President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

The geography leaves them isolated in their home streets that have become war zones, with tanks firing in residential areas and snipers on rooftops as poorly armed militias try to fend off the Houthis and pro-Saleh forces. With ambulances unable to reach them because of sniper fire, dead and wounded often lie for days in the streets. Some families have buried loved ones in their backyards. Others have made their way to the Aden University medical school to bury them in an empty lot, several residents told AP.

Nigeria: Nearly 300 freed women, children led to safety

YOLA, Nigeria (AP)—Their faces were gaunt, their hair tinted orange, their stomachs distended, all signs of malnutrition. They looked ragged, lost, shattered. But the girls were alive and free.

They were among a group of 275 children and women rescued from Boko Haram extremists, the first to arrive at a refugee camp Saturday after a three-day journey to safety, brought by Nigeria's military.

They came from the Sambisa Forest, the last stronghold of the Islamic extremists, where the Nigerian military said it has rescued more than 677 girls and women and destroyed more than a dozen insurgent camps in

the past week.

Two newborns were among the first arrivals.

"Boko Haram killed the father of this child," Lami Musa told The Associated Press, cradling a four-day-old girl with black curls glistening with sweat in the 104-degrees Fahrenheit (40-degrees Celsius) heat.

Tears came to her eyes when she was asked if she has other children: "Three of them. Boko Haram killed my husband and grabbed me. I have no idea where my other children are." She said she lost her family in an attack by the militants on her village of Lassa in December.

The baby was born the day before the group set off from the

Sambisa for a refugee camp in Yola, the capital of Adamawa state, crammed into the backs of rickety, open pick-up trucks.

On the trip's first day, one military vehicle escorting the group exploded a landmine, wounding two soldiers, according to a soldier traveling with them. He spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to journalists.

Soldiers on foot then swept the road ahead of the convoy, he said, so it took three days to travel potholed roads for the 300 kilometers (200 miles) southwest to Yola.

Musa, 27, could barely walk when they arrived, limping on

feet swollen to massive size. She said couldn't nurse her unnamed baby, because her breasts have no milk.

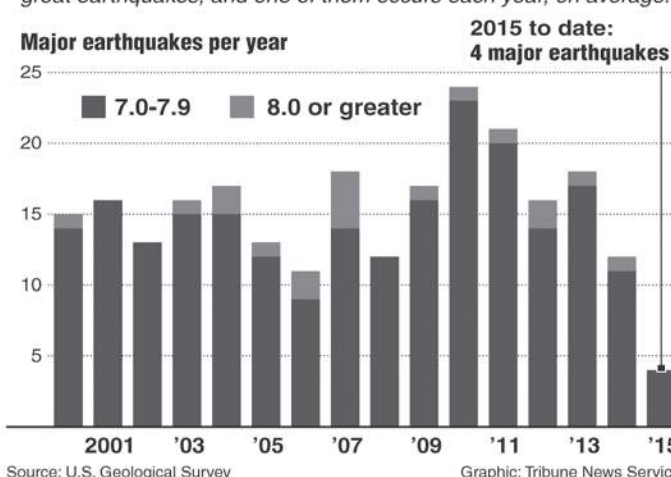
She's among several dozen in the group taken first to the clinic at the refugee camp, set up in an unused boarding school.

There, 22 were dispatched immediately to a hospital in town. Dr. Mohammed Auwal said many were suffering from malaria, diarrhea and malnutrition.

As night crept in, the camp is lit by a generator that powered the clinic and a bulb in a tree under which the military handed over the females to the National Emergency Management Agency at a brief ceremony.

Major earthquakes

The recent earthquake in Nepal was measured at a magnitude of 7.8. Earthquakes with a magnitude of 8.0 or higher are considered great earthquakes, and one of them occurs each year, on average.



The government said Sunday that the quake had killed 7,040 people. Laxi Dhakal, a Home Ministry official, said hopes of finding survivors had faded dramatically. "Unless they were caught in an air pocket, there is not much possibility," he said.

Nepal has been shaken by more than 70 aftershocks following the quake, and its people remain on edge. One brief aftershock Saturday afternoon shook

the only paved road in the village of Pauwathok. Residents screamed and began to run, then stopped when the tremor eased.

The small village is located in the district of Sindupalchok, where more deaths have been recorded than anywhere else in Nepal—2,560, compared to 1,622 in Kathmandu. The U.N. says up to 90 percent of the houses in Sindupalchok have been destroyed.

WORLD BRIEFS

Chairman of Taiwan's ruling party visits mainland

SHANGHAI (AP)—The chairman of Taiwan's ruling Nationalist party said Sunday that further cooperation between the Chinese mainland and Taiwan was of utmost importance ahead of expected talks with President Xi Jinping as the former bitter enemies continue their 2-decade-old rapprochement. "Cross-strait relations are something we all have to face," said Eric Chu, leader of the Nationalists, or Kuomintang. "The 21st century is one of cooperation, not one of confrontation. We must use a healthy attitude, a positive attitude to welcome an era of cross-strait cooperation." Chu, a likely candidate for the island's presidency in next year's election, spoke at a cross-strait economic and cultural forum in Shanghai attended by representatives from small and medium-sized businesses.

Japan prime minister ends US visit

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has ended his weeklong visit to the U.S. with a tour of the University of Southern California, where he was a student in the 1970s. The Los Angeles Times reports the brief visit on Saturday morning was Abe's final event in the United States before heading home. Abe had spent three

semesters at USC studying English and taking courses in political science, international relations and history. University officials escorted him around the campus and presented him with a USC letterman's jacket inscribed with his name. Earlier in the week, Abe addressed a joint session of Congress and was the guest of honor at a state dinner at the White House. He also held economic discussions in Silicon Valley and Los Angeles.

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Life & Style

Mayweather-Pacquiao prizefight delayed amid high TV demand

LAS VEGAS (AP)—The most anticipated boxing fight in years has been delayed because of high pay-per-view demand causing problems for cable and satellite systems.

Jim Lampley, the main telecaster for the Floyd Mayweath-

er-Manny Pacquiao showdown in Las Vegas told viewers Saturday night that "electronic overload" caused cable and satellite operators to ask for a delay.

Scores of angry tweets directed at various providers complained of problems with

both ordering and watching. Some users said when they tried to order, the fight wasn't available. Others complained of picture problems or an inability to tune to the pay-per-view channel.

Customer service Twitter ac-

counts for Dish Network and Cox Communications asked users whether they ordered standard definition or high definition feeds of the fight, indicating there may be issues with the standard definition feed. A similar account for DirecTV

referred users toward a troubleshooting website.

The bout is expected to be the most popular in pay-per-view history, with an estimated 3 million households buying the fight at nearly \$100 each.

"We're seeing and graceful-

ly managing a lot of demand—which is a good thing," Dish Network spokesman Bob Toews said.

Time Warner Cable spokesman Dennis Johnson said the operator was doing as much as possible to resolve the issues.

Britain has a new princess—and eagerly awaits her name



AP
Britain's Prince William, left, and Kate, Duchess of Cambridge, hold their newborn daughter as they leave St. Mary's Hospital's exclusive Lindo Wing, London, Saturday, May 2, 2015.

It may be a day or two before the world knows what to call her. When Prince George, her older brother, was born in 2013, royal officials waited two days before announcing his name.

Speculation about the new royal's name has been frenetic, and all the top bets for the baby's name have been for girls: Alice and Charlotte are the clear favorites, followed by Elizabeth, Victoria and Diana—all names with strong royal connections. Royal children are usually given several names—the baby's brother was christened George

Alexander Louis—so the princess's name could incorporate more than one of those guesses.

Anticipation had been building for weeks after Kate, 33, told a well-wisher she was due around late April. Still, journalists were caught slightly off guard when she delivered barely three hours after checking into the hospital at dawn Saturday. William, 32, was present at the birth.

The couple later emerged on the hospital steps with the infant to briefly pose for photographers before leaving for their home at nearby Kensington Palace. Kate, who wore a yellow-and-white floral shift dress by British designer Jenny Packham, held the sleeping baby wrapped in a white shawl.

The couple looked relaxed but didn't answer any questions.

William earlier told reporters he was "very happy" as he brought young George to the hospital to meet his baby sister. George, looking slightly alarmed by all the cameras, waved dutifully at the adoring crowds.

The queen and senior royals were "delighted with the news," officials said. The queen marked the occasion by wearing a pink ensemble while carrying out an official engagement in North Yorkshire, 250 miles (400 kilometers) north of London.

Cheers and chants of "Princess! Princess!" rang out from the hundreds of well-wishers and tourists gathered outside the palace and the hospital as soon as the news was announced. One fan who had camped out outside the hospital for days danced with joy.

"I'm top of the world," said royal camper Terry Hutt, 80, decked out in patriotic Union Jack gear. He did not expect the birth to happen as soon as it did but said: "Babies come when they're ready."

"If Diana was here, she'd be very, very proud," he added, referring to the late Princess Diana, William's mother.

The news was announced on social media sites like Twitter as well as by a traditional bulletin on a gilded easel in front of Buckingham Palace—a practice that dates to 1837.

A town crier in an elaborate costume—with no official connection to the royal family—shouted out the news at the hospital's door, clanging his bell to welcome the new royal.

"May our princess be long-lived, happy and glorious," said Tony Appleton, reading from a scroll in a booming voice.

"Avengers: Age of Ultron' assembles huge opening day

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Iron Man and his superhero pals have bested their own opening day record with "Avengers: Age of Ultron." The \$250 million sequel pulled in \$84.5 million from Thursday night and Friday showings, topping the \$80.8 million opening of the first "Avengers" in 2012, according to Disney estimates Saturday.

The Marvel and Disney film,

directed by Joss Whedon, now boasts the second biggest opening day of all time, behind the final "Harry Potter" film, which debuted with \$91.1 million.

Disney's distribution head Dave Hollis said the film remains "on a pace" to beat the all-time \$207.4 million record set by the first film. The studio is projecting a conservative range of \$200 million to \$210 million by the time the week-

end closes out.

But all remain wary of divided attentions on a weekend packed with sports events, including the Kentucky Derby, the NBA playoffs and the Floyd Mayweather Jr. and Manny Pacquiao fight.

No matter where "Ultron" ends up on the scale, though, the Marvel Cinematic Universe is poised to claim the top three biggest openings ever, bumping

"Iron Man 3" to third. That film opened to \$174 million in 2013.

"Ultron" is also a solid global force. Adding in an additional \$53 million from international markets on Friday, "Ultron" has already amassed \$425 million worldwide. South Korea has had the biggest showing internationally, with \$43 million in sales, followed by the U.K. and Russia with \$39 million and \$23 million, respectively.

Woman's Prince Charming has abandoned the magic words

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend and I both have professional careers and are independent. We have been in a committed relationship for eight years now.

When we first met, I wasn't looking to be in a relationship. He pulled all the stops to get me to date him. He was attentive, complimentary, dinner dates, movies, etc. He was the first to say "I love you." Prince Charming had nothing on him.

When he knew I had finally fallen for him, the chase was over and everything came to a screeching halt. No more dates, no more I-love-yous. Everything he did to get me to fall in love with him stopped. The man I fell for doesn't exist anymore.

If I ask him if he loves me, he tells me I shouldn't be insecure and needy. I told him hearing the words mean a lot to me, but the words seem to have been deleted from his vocabulary. Any suggestions on how I can get him to understand how I need to hear it from him?

LONGING FOR 'I LOVE YOU'

DEAR LONGING: You have already told your boyfriend what you need. Now it's time to find out why he is unwilling to give it to you. Then ask yourself if you want to continue like this indefinitely, because he appears to have changed considerably. Is he the kind of husband you would want for a lifetime? If not, you might be better off with someone more responsive,

because this appears to be the status quo, and the man has shown himself to be unlikely to change.

DEAR ABBY: With technology the way it is today and everyone taking photos and videos of everyone around them, are there any new rules of etiquette? I'm asking because of a couple situations I've been in lately.

The other day I was kayaking with some people I met online. While I was rowing, struggling to catch up with those who were faster, breathing hard and sweating, a kayaker in front of me whom I had just met started videotaping me. I didn't want to be videotaped, but I didn't want to break my stride and explain.

Yesterday I was in a hot spring at a health spa, wearing a swimsuit. I looked up and a woman I didn't know was about to take a photo of two other women. I was in the background. Fortunately, I was able to leap out of the way, and the only part of me that might have been photographed was my backside.

In both situations I was uncomfortable, but I did nothing to stop it. What is a polite way to ask someone to stop?

PHOTO-SHY IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR PHOTO-SHY: It's perfectly acceptable to say, "Please don't do that," or "Let me get out of range." If

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



the photographer has any manners, he/she will accommodate you.

DEAR ABBY: My husband never gets me anything for Mother's Day. We have two children. He says, "You're not my mother!" What do you think?

HURT IN PENNSYLVANIA

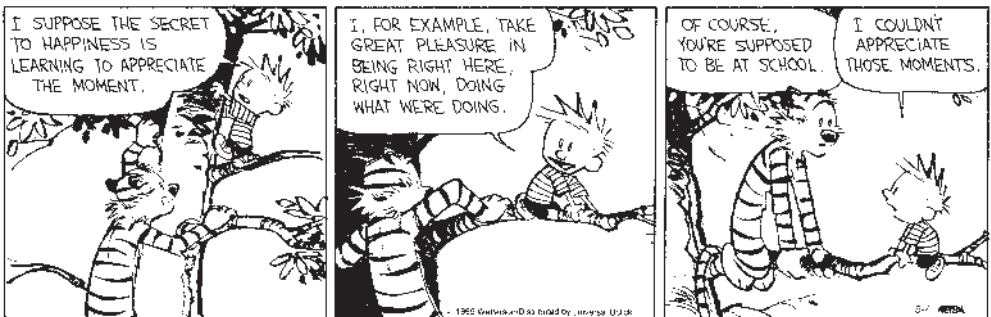
DEAR HURT: Is your husband the father of your children? If the answer is yes, I think the man you married is thoughtless, insensitive or cheap.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby - Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Annie Lennox's, "No More 'I Love —' " 5 Shade provider 8 Grate 12 Ordinate counter-part 14 "Do — others —" 15 Labyrinth beast 16 Eminem song 17 Little, in Paris 18 Unisex top 20 PC peripheral 23 Folder contents 24 Angered 25 Stately dances 28 "— Miserables" 29 Pugilist 30 Discoverer's cry 32 Mosque tower

DOWN

1 Sweet potato 34 Culture medium 35 — and crafts 36 SALT subject 37 Elk 40 Crucial 41 Mideast airline 42 Member of the clergy 47 Skin opening 48 Eternally 49 Prepared to drive 50 Reuben bread 51 Impale

13 Particular

19 Speak sloppily

2 Kyto

20 Wire measure

21 Utah city

22 Lucy's partner

23 Repairs

25 Bergen's dummy

26 Takeout request

27 Phony

29 Homer's imp son

31 Sphere

33 Caught red-handed

34 Bottom-less pits

36 Estate recipient

37 Sobbed

38 Lotion additive

39 Rid of rind

40 Patella site

43 Wall climber

44 Youngster

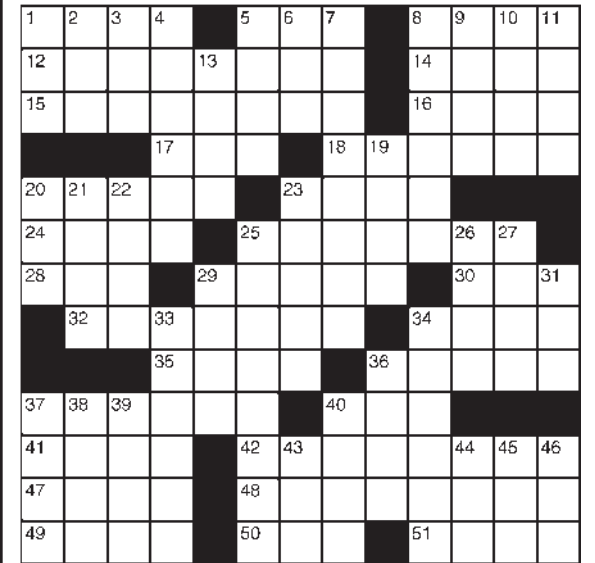
45 Historic time

46 CSA soldier

Solution time: 27 mins.

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E	D	E	N	P	O	O	R	E	E	L

Friday's answer 5-1



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Rory McIlroy, 26; Erin Andrews, 37; Will Arnett, 45; Randy Travis, 56.

Happy Birthday: Do your thing, take action and be passionate about reaching your goals. Stay within your means and focus on whatever will bring the highest return. Avoid excess and emotional encounters that will slow your progress. Recall old ideas and reconnect with people you feel can contribute something that will improve your position and your future. Your numbers are 8, 13, 20, 24, 32, 38, 43.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Make personal changes that will reflect the image or attributes you want to emphasize. Being happy with the way you look, the knowledge you possess and the direction you choose is essential. Reach for the stars and believe in yourself. ★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't overreact to thoughtless comments or emotional manipulation. Take a step back and weigh the pros and cons. Taking care of your responsibilities and professional obligations should take top priority. A promise made will not be honored. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): An offer will not turn out as it's hyped up to be. Ask questions and negotiate on your own behalf. Show how knowledgeable and responsible you can be. Doors will open if you show confidence, but don't make promises you cannot keep. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Offer a different point of view or take the initiative to be original in whatever tasks you

perform. Love is in the stars and romance will result in a passionate and eventful moment that can improve your future. ★★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Keep your thoughts to yourself if you want to avoid conflict with someone you deal with daily. Make personal changes that will help you be and do your best. A change in the way you present your skills will be admired. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Pay attention to what everyone else is saying and doing. The more knowledge you have, the easier it will be to encourage others to see things your way. Wait until you are fully prepared to present what you have to offer. ★★★★★

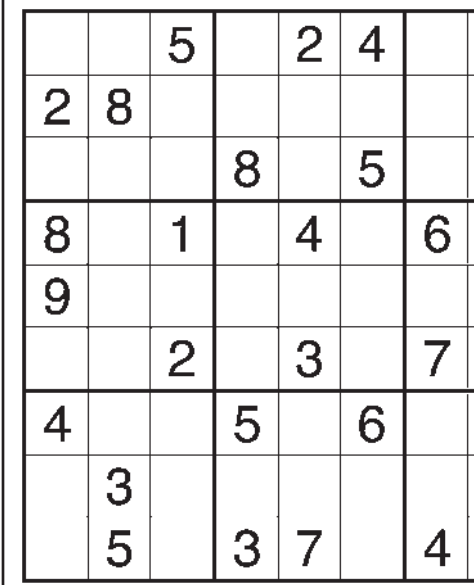
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't wait for someone else to do things for you. It's up to you to further your direction in life, whether it's professional, personal or otherwise. Recognition will be yours if you take the initiative and explore your options. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): A hasty decision will lead to complications. Take your time and let your emotions settle before you decide to share your thoughts or make a move. Make improvements or work out any kinks that could derail your plans. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Problems with government agencies, institutions or authority figures will arise if you haven't been completely transparent about personal or business matters. Don't let red tape ruin your chance to have a fun-filled day with someone you love. ★★★★★

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green



Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's SUDOKU Answer

9	6	8	5	7	1	2	4	3
7	3	4	2	8	9	1	5	6
5	2	1	4	6	3	8	9	7
4	9	5	6	1	2	3	7	8
3	8	6	9	4	7	5	2	1
2	1	7	8	3	5	4	6	9
8	4	3	7	2	6	9	1	5
1	7	9	3	5	4	6	8	2
6	5	2	1	9	8	7	3	4

Difficulty Level ★ 5/04

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 3/0

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Your professional life will need some positive adjustments. Form alliances and come to terms with changes that will help make your life better. Put a little muscle and originality behind your plans and you will succeed. ★★★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Put more time and effort into accomplishing your professional goals and less into emotional matters that you cannot change. Overreacting will lead to disappointment and regret, but your achievements will bring you greater opportunity. Self-improvement will pay off. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Look over contracts, negotiate deals, settle pending problems and take a second look at an investment. Don't be sidetracked by what others do. Follow the path that seems most reasonable and accessible to you. There is money to be made. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, changeable and outgoing. You are a conversationalist and a storyteller. Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter](http://twitter.com/eugenialast)/[facebook](http://facebook.com/eugenialast)/[linkedin](http://linkedin.com/eugenialast).

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICA ACT

Solution: 9 letters

C	I	H	E	L	D	P	Q	U	E	B	E	C	F	O
O	O	N	S	S	N	O	I	S	I	V	O	R	P	L
N	N	N	D	I	R	P	O	W	E	R	E	E	A	D
S	A	T	F	E	L	I	R	E	E	N	R	W	S	A
T	A	M	A	E	P	G	G	T	C	A	S	N	E	G
I	D	H	E	R	D	E	N	H	T	I	O	E	X	E
T	A	O	O	S	I	E	N	E	T	I	T	D	A	V
U	N	U	I	Q	M	O	R	D	T	S	I	S	T	T
T	A	S	U	D	I	E	E	A	E	S	E	S	U	N
I	C	E	N	T	F	P	R	I	T	N	E	C	N	J
O	E	E	C	S	U	A	N	R	A	I	C	E	I	N
N	M	E	N	T	L	O	I	T	R	S	O	E	O	W
A	L	A	I	C	L	C	E	ⓔ	ⓓ	ⓓ	ⓓ	N	N	O
E	R	E	E	O	T	A	S	S	E	M	B	L	E	R
T	S	D	C	H	A	N	G	E	S	U	S	N	E	C

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Amendment, Assemble, Canada, Census, Changes, Colonies, Confederation, Constitution, Core, Crown, Declaration, Deputies, District, Election, English, French, Held, House, Independence, Justice, Laws, Names, Old Age, Ontario, Operate, Power, Provisions, Quebec, Queen, Rights, Seat, Senate, Series, Taxes, Transfer, Union, Vote

Last Friday's Answer: Pitt Rivers

To purchase WONDERWORD books, visit www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

1 Accountant / Reservation Agent: \$1,500 - \$2,200 / month. Bachelor's degree in accounting and at least 2 years'accounting experience required. Must be familiar with U.S. GAAP and SAP. Korean language proficiency required. Email resume to asiana@hanmisaipan.com.

1 Maintenance and Repair Worker, General: \$6.10/hr. At least 2 years experience required. Email resume to mc@hanmisaipan.com.

1 General Manager (Accounting): \$1,000-1,800/mo. 5 years of managerial experience required. Must have majored in accounting. 10 years of accounting experience required. Korean writing and speaking fluency required. Email resume to hps@hanmisaipan.com.

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Strategic Gaming Solution, Inc. has immediate opening for

Cook (1)

Position Summary: To prepare and cook for small restaurant, control wastage, clean galley, kitchen and work area, cook staff meals, to ensure cleanliness, and a functional operation, to be able to prepare and cook food promptly, in presentable and delectable way.

Qualification Requirements: High school graduate, GED or equivalent plus 6 months to a year work experience as cook in a restaurant or hotel. Preferably with experience in Western, Japanese and Chinese cuisines. Must be energetic with an excellent track record in hospitality and who thrives in a fast paced service environment. Must have strong team work skills. Must be willing to work shifts, evening, holidays, and weekends. Highly motivate, organized and self-discipline. Preferably one that is able to communicate in English and Chinese language.

Salary: Will be based on experience.

Please pick an application at our Human Resources Department located within Kanoa Resort , Susupe, from Monday to Friday between the hours of 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Last day to submit application by 5:30 p.m. May 7, 2015.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

Human Resources Assistant
College degree in business administration, management, human resources or related field will be an advantage. Must have knowledge of principles and procedures for personnel recruitment, selection, benefits and personnel information systems. Ability to work in confidential related matters, self-directed and be able to multi-task in a fast paced environment. With a minimum of two years work experience. Proficient in MS Office including Word, Excel, and Outlook.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan or e-mail it to lt_recruitment@tanholdings.com. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Friday, May 15, 2015.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

Saipan Tribune is looking for a is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following position:

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Qualifications:

- Can work within deadlines.
- Fast learner, self-starter, and a team player.
- Must have a four year degree in Journalism, English, or related fields.
- Must have at least two years experience.
- Must be able to work on weekends, holidays, and at night.
- Must have reliable means of transportation.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan or e-mail it to lt_recruitment@tanholdings.com. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Friday, May 15, 2015.

Saipan Tribune, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer. Qualified women, minorities, and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Strategic Gaming Solution, Inc. has immediate opening for

Guest Service Officer (1)

Position Summary: Responsible for ensuring the smooth operation of the guest services desk on a designated shift, ensure full support is given to visiting junket premium players and VIP visiting the e-gaming machine lounge.

Qualification Requirements: High school diploma, GED or equivalent with six-months to one year previous successful work-related experience as a Guest Service Officer in a casino, slots or gaming club or lounge, or any combination of experience, education or training where guest service skills are demonstrated . Able to communicate clearly in and posses a good command of verbal and written English and Chinese, good public speaking and communication skills.

Waitress (1)

Position Summary: Responsible for ensuring and providing excellent customer service of the club gaming floor on a designated shift, ensuring correct orders and delivery to all patrons, maintaining a clean and presentable appearance of club floor at all times.

Qualification Requirements: High school diploma, GED or equivalent plus anywhere from three months to one year of training and experience as a waitress in a restaurant or hotel. Able to communicate clearly and posses a good command of verbal and written English. Preferably Chinese speaking. Must have good organizational skills and detail oriented, fast learner, self-discipline and good problem solving skills, works well in a high paced and high volume environment, and a team player.

Salary: Based on experience.

Kindly pick up an application at our Human Resources Department located within Kanoa Resort, Beach Road, Susupe. Application may be picked up Monday to Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Last day to submit application is May 8, 2015. No phone call please.

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Classified Ads

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Paul lifts Clippers past Spurs, 111-109, in Game 7



LOS ANGELES (AP)—It figured that the most entertaining first-round series in the NBA playoffs would come down to a play involving Chris Paul and Tim Duncan.

Paul, who willed himself back from an early hamstring injury, banked in a shot over Duncan with a second left to lift the Los Angeles Clippers to a wild 111-109 victory in Game 7 on Saturday night that eliminated the defending NBA champion San Antonio Spurs from the playoffs.

After Duncan made two free throws to tie it with 8.8 seconds left, Paul drove the right side. He originally was covered by Danny Green before Duncan came over to help. Paul put up a one-handed shot over the 39-year Spurs star that went in as he was falling away.

Paul said coach Doc Rivers called him and Blake Griffin over at the end of the morning walk-through to talk about last-shot scenarios.

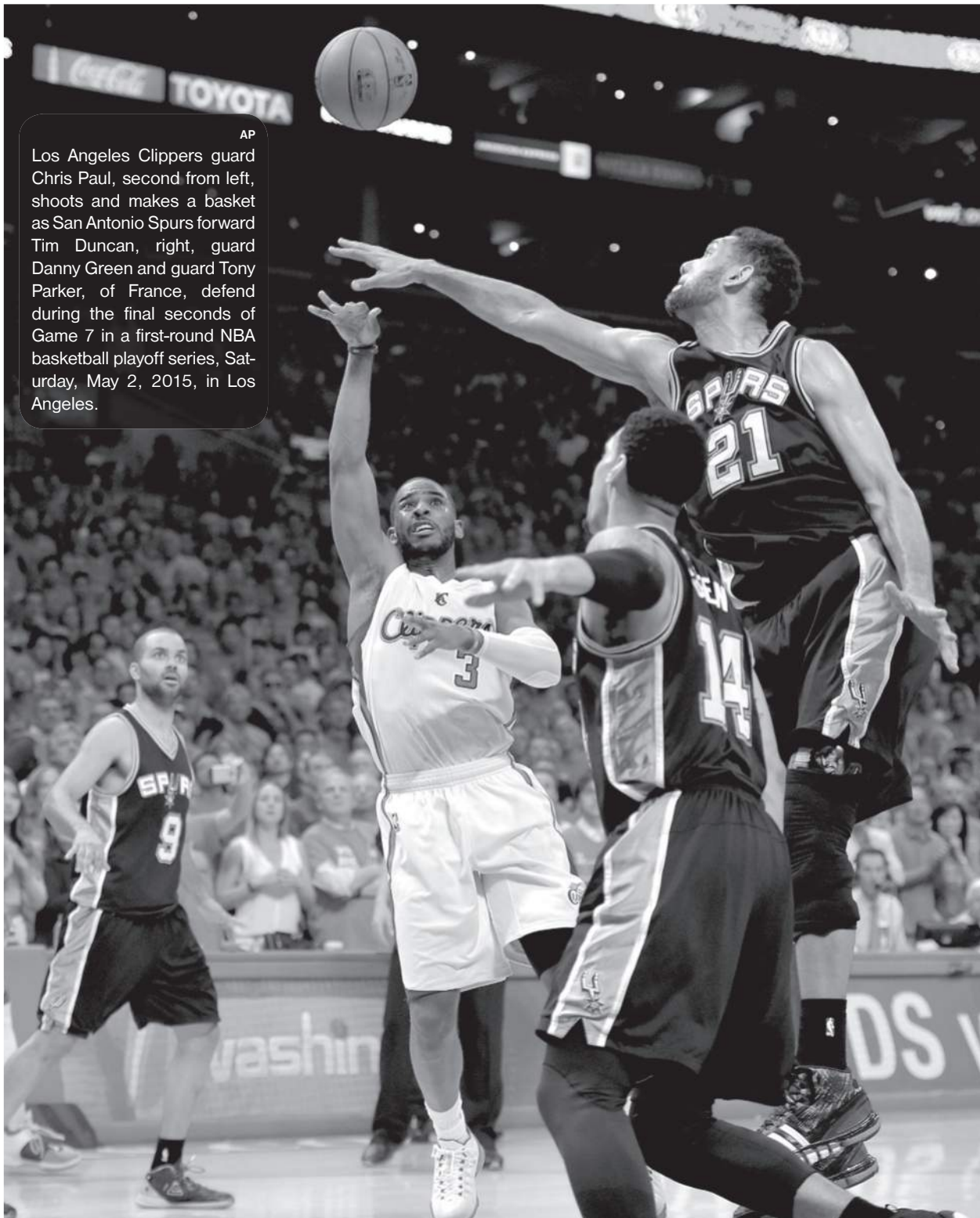
"We've been in that situation a lot of times already this year, and most of the time I hadn't made it," Paul said. "We talked about it, and finally it worked when we needed it."

Rivers said Paul is "just a tough kid. He's a street fighter. I mean, he really is. I love him to death because of his will."

Duncan said Paul's shot was "just unbelievable. I know he was playing a little hurt, and he played through all that, found ways to get it done. I mean, just an unbelievable last shot over two of us. He's just a great leader, and it was amazing to watch. I wish I wasn't on the other end."

Matt Barnes knocked away the inbound pass to seal the victory and the Staples Center crowd went crazy after the Clippers advanced to the Western Conference semifinals for just the fourth time in franchise history.

The Clippers, who faltered at home in Games 2 and 5, move on to face the Rockets starting Monday night in Houston.



AP
Los Angeles Clippers guard Chris Paul, second from left, shoots and makes a basket as San Antonio Spurs forward Tim Duncan, right, guard Danny Green and guard Tony Parker, of France, defend during the final seconds of Game 7 in a first-round NBA basketball playoff series, Saturday, May 2, 2015, in Los Angeles.

"It's only round one, but that team over there, I mean, it's crazy that this was the first round of the playoffs," Paul said.

Paul scored 18 of his 27 points in the second half, including four big 3-pointers.

Duncan had 27 points and 11 rebounds, his sixth double-double of the series.

Paul missed the final 2 minutes of the first quarter and the first 5 1/2 minutes of the second quarter. He appeared to get hurt as he dribbled up court before making a 3-pointer. He sat on the bench with his head in his hands before leaving for the locker room.

"I thought about the team and all the things we'd been through," Paul said. "I know that if it was any other guy on our team in a situation like this, they wouldn't lay down, so I just tried to find a way."

Blake Griffin had 24 points, 13 rebounds and 10 assists for Los Angeles for his second triple-double of the series.

The Clippers trailed by five points with 5:42 left before Griffin made two free throws and J.J. Redick a 3-pointer to tie it at 97 with 3:58 to go.

The teams traded leads during the final minutes, with Duncan, Kawhi Leonard and Manu Ginobili scoring for the Spurs and Barnes hitting a 3-pointer for the Clippers.

Paul made two three throws with 13.3 seconds left for a 109-107 lead before Duncan was fouled by Redick and made both shots with 8.8 seconds left.

Paul hit a clutch 3-pointer as the buzzer sounded at the end of the third quarter to give the Clippers a 79-78 lead and earn a standing ovation. It was his third 3 of the quarter, coming after Ginobili made two of three free throws after he was fouled by Austin Rivers while taking a desperation shot from three-quarters court with 7.8 seconds left.

Barnes scored 17 points, Jamal Crawford 16 and Redick 14 for L.A.

Tony Parker had 20, Danny Green 16, Leonard 13 and Boris Diaw 12 for San Antonio.



TAMPA, Fla. (AP)—The struggling Tampa Bay Buccaneers are counting on Jameis Winston to help them become relevant again.

The Heisman Trophy-winning quarterback was selected with the first overall pick in the NFL draft on Thursday night, instantly becoming the face of a franchise that missed the playoffs the past seven seasons and hasn't won a post-season game since the club's Super Bowl run in 2002.

Coach Lovie Smith and Jason Licht made the call, concluding after months of interviews and exhaustive research that Winston not only can be the answer to team's offensive woes, but that the 21-year-old has learned from off-the-field mistakes that threatened to undermine his stock in the draft.

"If he wasn't a good guy, we wouldn't have used the first pick on him," Licht said.

"He's a champion. He's a leader. He's a winner. He's got tremendous football character, tremendous intelligence and work ethic," the GM added.

Buccaneers select Jameis with top pick in NFL draft

"His work ethic is one thing that really, really put him over the top for us."

In selecting Winston, the 2013 Heisman winner who a former Florida State student said sexually assaulted her though he said the sex was consensual and was never charged or arrested, the Bucs passed on 2014 Heisman winner Marcus Mariota. The Oregon standout was the other quarterback under consideration for the top pick.

Winston, who led Florida State to a national title two years ago and finished 26-1 as the Seminoles starter, chose not to travel to Chicago for the draft. Instead, he remained in his hometown of Bessemer, Alabama, with family and friends.

The Bucs haven't made the playoffs since 2007 and have gone through three coaching changes and eight different starting quarterbacks since then, including Josh Freeman, a first-round draft pick in 2009.

Winston isn't concerned about high expectations. He thrived on them in college.

"The challenge is just being an NFL player, period. I'm not worried about any off-the-field situations or even on-the-field situations," he said. "I'm just worried about living this new lifestyle and just developing into a great man for the Tampa Bay community for my teammates, because it's all for them and it's all for the success of this franchise."

Smith and Licht said repeatedly over the past two months that they were comfortable with the prospect of taking Winston, who also generated negative headlines for shoplifting crab legs from a supermarket. Last season he was suspended for one game after climbing onto a table in the FSU student union and shouting an obscenity.

The Glazer family, which owns the team, also was on record for weeks as being comfortable with the organization's vetting process, which included Winston's daylong visit to One Buccaneer Place in early March.

"I know there are a lot of things that have been said about him. He's made some mistakes

that a lot of young people make from time to time when they're young," Smith said. "I definitely don't think I see a pattern. ... I trust my instincts on people to know who we're getting."

Licht insisted the team, while impressed with both Winston and Mariota, would wait until the last minute to finalize its decision in case another club stepped up offering a trade he and Smith couldn't refuse.

The GM said he fielded calls until just before the pick, but was not tempted to part with the top spot.

"We didn't actually tell him until we called him (Thursday night), but I think along the way he got a sense that this could work," Smith said. "He could see how we felt about him."

Winston didn't wait for confirmation of the team's intentions before getting familiar with the Tampa Bay area, participating in a pair of charity golf events hosted by former Bucs who extended invitations to the quarterback.

Winston played in the Der-

rick Brooks Celebrity Classic on Monday, a tournament that also attracted Hall of Famers Deion Sanders, Larry Little, Ted Hendricks, Marcus Allen, John Randle and Jerome Bettis. Three weeks ago, he was in town for a golf event for Mike Alstott's foundation.

Brooks, who spent his entire NFL career with Tampa Bay, was elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame last year. He is a former FSU star, a member of the school's board of trustees and among those who feel the young quarterback deserves an opportunity to show he's a better person than many perceive him to be.

"Time will tell," Brooks said, adding that he was impressed that Winston sought a face-to-face meeting with NFL commissioner in the weeks leading up to the draft.

"Who else has done that?" Brooks added. "That tells you a lot."

The Bucs coming off a 2-14 season, in which they posted their worst record in 28 years and fin-

ished last in the NFC South for the fourth straight year.

Winston joins Hall of Famer Lee Roy Selmon (1976), Ricky Bell (1977), Bo Jackson (1986), as well as, Vinny Testaverde (1987)—another Heisman-winning quarterback—in being picked No. 1 overall by Tampa Bay.

The Bucs spent their entire 2014 draft, their first under Smith and Licht, on offensive players, yet still ranked 25th in passing, 29th in scoring and 30th in total offense last season.

The team paved the way for Winston to become the starter immediately, releasing veteran Josh McCown and hiring former Atlanta Falcons offensive coordinator Dirk Koetter to install a system the team hopes will give the young quarterback a chance to flourish.

The prospect of not playing up to expectations hasn't crossed Winston's mind.

"One thing I don't do is live in the past and I will not be negative. I'm very optimistic about this situation," Winston said. "It's been my life-long dream to be a successful quarterback and great teammate in the NFL."

American Pharoah gives trainer a long-awaited 4th Derby win

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP)—Three times in seven years, Bob Baffert left the Kentucky Derby empty-handed. Two seconds and a sixth-place finish by the wagering favorite.

After a while, those close calls started taking a toll. Even for a three-time Derby winner.

“When you get beat like that, all these seconds, you get to a point in your life, maybe it’s not just going to happen for me,” said Baffert, 62, who suffered a heart attack in Dubai three years ago. “And then they sent me this horse. And I thought, ‘Wow, here’s my chance. Don’t mess it up, Bob.’”

On this first Saturday in May, Baffert knew he had the best horse in American Pharoah. Still, he needed a dynamic performance and some old-fashioned racing luck.

He got it all—and then some—with a horse that even rival trainers suspect could be a threat to win racing’s first Triple Crown in 37 years.

Sent off as the 5-2 favorite by the record crowd of 170,513, American Pharoah rallied in the stretch to beat Firing Line by a length and deliver Baffert’s first Derby since 2002.

“There’s a certain aura about him, and he has caught everybody’s attention,” said a joyous Baffert, surrounded by three older sons from a first marriage and his youngest, 10-year-old Bode, who jumped up and down and waved his arms in celebration.

Owner Ahmed Zayat grabbed the gold winner’s trophy - his



Victor Espinoza rides American Pharoah to victory in the 141st running of the Kentucky Derby horse race at Churchill Downs Saturday, May 2, 2015, in Louisville, Ky.

first after a trio of second-place finishes in the \$2.1 million race.

“Finally, no more seconds,” he said, laughing.

Baffert trained two of Zayat’s runners-up: Pioneerof the Nile in 2009, the sire of American Pharoah; and Bodemeister, named for Baffert’s son,

three years ago.

“This is for the Zayats, who have suffered so much running these seconds,” Baffert said. “We know what it is to just get punched right in the face.”

Baffert also saddled third-place Dortmund, the other part of his lethal 1-2 punch in the

141st Derby. Firing Line finished second.

“We were ready to rumble,” said Baffert, who went 1-3 in 1998, when Real Quiet won and Indian Charlie was third. “I just love what I saw today from both of my boys.”

Dortmund set a leisurely pace

with Firing Line tracking him closely in second. American Pharoah sat comfortably in third down the backstretch.

That trio made it a three-horse race in the stretch, with none of the closers able to make up ground. American Pharoah angled outside and fought off a persistent Firing Line as Dortmund tired along the rail, his six-race winning streak about to end.

“Coming for home I thought I might get there, but it wasn’t to be,” said Gary Stevens, who rode Firing Line.

Now, the moment of truth. Could American Pharoah justify Baffert’s belief that he was an exceptional colt?

“I was on pins and needles all week,” the white-haired trainer said. “I know I was coming in here with the best horse.”

American Pharoah proved him right.

Still, it was a long road to the winner’s circle for the colt with the unusually short tail - having had it chewed off by another horse on the farm - and the misspelled moniker courtesy of a fan contest.

American Pharoah missed his first big test last year when he was scratched from the Breeders’ Cup with an injury. He returned with two easy wins this year against lesser competition. Dortmund and several other Derby contenders had beaten much tougher fields, raising questions about whether American Pharoah could mix

it up in a 20-horse field.

Victor Espinoza won his second consecutive Derby a year after being aboard California Chrome, and third overall. He and Baffert teamed to win with War Emblem 18 years ago.

“He’s been a special horse since I first rode him,” Espinoza said. “I feel like the luckiest Mexican on Earth.”

American Pharoah ran 1 1/4 miles in 2:03.02.

Baffert tied D. Wayne Lukas and Herbert “Derby Dick” Thompson for second on the career win list.

American Pharoah paid \$7.80, \$5.80, \$4.20.

Firing Line returned \$8.40 and \$5.40 at 10-1 odds, while Dortmund was another two lengths back in third and paid \$4.20 to show.

Zayat took a pre-Derby blow Friday, when one of his other horses, El Kabeir, was scratched because of a sore foot. Mr. Z, his third entry, finished 13th.

Trainer Todd Pletcher’s trio of Materiality, Itsaknockout and Carpe Diem finished sixth, ninth and 10th.

Frosted was fourth, followed by Danzig Moon, Materiality, Keen Ice and Mubtahij. Itsaknockout was ninth on the same day Floyd Mayweather and Manny Pacquiao fought in Las Vegas.

Carpe Diem was 10th, followed by Frammento, Bolo, Mr. Z, Ocho Ocho Ocho, Far Right, War Story, Tencendur and Upstart.

Gardner drives in 3 runs, Yanks top Red Sox, 4-2



BOSTON (AP)—Brett Gardner

drove in three runs, Nathan Eovaldi pitched well into the seventh inning and the New York Yankees beat the Boston Red Sox 4-2 on Saturday for their 12th win in 15 games.

One day after tying Willie Mays for fourth place with 660 career homers, Alex Rodriguez singled in four at-bats.

Gardner doubled home a run in the third, then gave the Yankees a 3-1 lead with a two-run single in the fifth. Chris Young hit his sixth homer of the year, a solo shot in the ninth.

Tigers 2, Royals 1

In Kansas City, Mo., David Price took a shutout into the ninth inning before finishing with a five-hitter as the Detroit Tigers beat the Kansas City Royals.

Price (3-1) limited the Royals to four singles until Lorenzo Cain homered with two-out in the ninth spoiled his bid for his second career shutout. Price struck out three and walked none. His only shutout was April 24, 2012, against the Los Angeles Angels.

Nationals 1, Mets 0

In New York, Gio Gonzalez struck out nine in seven crisp innings on one of his favorite mounds, outpitching Jonathon Niese to lead the Washington Nationals over the New York Mets.

Michael Taylor drove in the only run with an infield single, and Washington won for the 16th time in its last 18 games at Citi Field. Ian Desmond snapped an 0-for-29 slump with two hits and threw out a runner at the plate.

Astros 11, Mariners 4

In Houston, the surprising Houston Astros matched their longest winning streak in nine years by posting their ninth straight victory behind Collin McHugh and a lot of home-run support.

The Astros, who went 70-92 last year after three straight seasons of at least 106 losses, have their best winning string since a nine-game streak in 2006. This victory gave them the best record in the AL.

Twins 5, White Sox 3

In Minneapolis, Trevor Plouffe and Torii Hunter homered, helping Ricky Nolasco return to the

rotation with a win.

Plouffe also lined an RBI single with the bases loaded in the fifth that broke a 3-all tie. Minnesota won for the seventh time in 10 games.

Cardinals 2, Pirates 1, 11 innings

In St. Louis, Matt Carpenter hit a sacrifice fly in the 11th inning Saturday and the St. Louis Cardinals once again beat the Pittsburgh Pirates 2-1 in extras.

The Cardinals have won five in a row. They defeated the Pirates 2-1 Friday night on Matt Adams’ single in the 10th.

Brewers 6, Cubs 1

In Chicago, Mike Fiers struck out 12 in six innings and Ryan Braun homered for the Milwaukee Brewers.

The Cubs got a scare in the second when rookie second baseman Addison Russell and first baseman Rizzo collided on Carlos Gomez’s bloop single to shallow right field. Both players remained in the game.

Giants 5, Angels 4

In San Francisco, Buster Posey and Brandon Crawford homered, Tim Hudson pitched

into the ninth and the San Francisco Giants beat the Los Angeles Angels.

Nori Aoki had two RBIs and Casey McGehee had three hits and drove in a run for the Giants, who won their fourth straight at home and eighth of 12 overall.

Albert Pujols and Mike Trout homered in the same game for the 20th time with the Angels, who have lost four of six.

Padres 4, Rockies 2

In San Diego, Brandon Morrow pitched six strong innings and Justin Upton drove in two runs as the San Diego Padres handed the Colorado Rockies their fourth straight loss.

San Diego won its second straight after losing seven of eight.

Morrow (2-0) wriggled out of a jam in the sixth, getting Nick Hundley to groundout with two on. Morrow was charged with two runs and seven hits. He struck out four.

Marlins 7, Phillies 0

In Miami, Martin Prado homered and drove in four runs, leading Dan Haren and the Miami Marlins over the Philadelphia Phillies.

The Marlins won for ninth time in 10 games.

Haren (3-1) gave up four hits in six innings. He walked none and struck out four.

Blue Jays 11, Indians 4

In Cleveland, Jose Bautista drove in four runs and the Toronto Blue Jays kept reigning AL Cy Young winner Corey Kluber winless on the season.

Kluber (0-4) allowed five runs and eight hits in five-plus innings. The Indians have lost all of his six starts this season.

Orioles 4, Rays 0

In St. Petersburg, Fla., Miguel Gonzalez pitched four-hit ball into the eighth inning, Steve Pearce drove in two runs and Baltimore beat the Tampa Bay Rays in a relocated Orioles home game.

It was the second game of a three-game series that was moved from Camden Yards to Tropicana Field after rioting broke out in Baltimore following the funeral of Freddie Gray, who died in police custody after suffering a spinal cord injury.

Reds 8, Braves 4

In Atlanta, Jay Bruce powered two long triples, Marlon Byrd broke out of his slump and Zack Cozart had three hits to lead the Reds.

Jason Marquis (3-1) pitched effectively against the team that drafted him in 1996, going 6 1-3 innings, giving up three runs and striking out four.

Eric Stultz (1-2) took the loss, giving up six runs, including home runs to Byrd and Todd Frazier.

Rangers 8, Athletics 7, 10 innings

In Arlington, Texas, Shin-Soo Choo hit a tying three-run homer in the seventh inning and scored the winning run in the 10th to lift the Texas Rangers to victory.

Choo led off the 10th with a double down the right-field line against Ryan Cook (0-2), moved to third following two walks and scored on Rougned Odor’s off R.J. Alvarez.

Dodgers 6, Diamondbacks 4

In Los Angeles, red-hot rookie Joc Pederson hit a tying solo homer in the seventh and Howie Kendrick singled home the go-ahead run two batters later, rallying the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Justin Turner also homered for the two-time defending NL West champions, who are 14-0 when scoring four or more runs—compared with 1-8 when they get three or fewer.

McIlroy in a fight with Casey until darkness gets in the way

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Those weren't boxing gloves Rory McIlroy was wearing, they were thick hand-warmers. In the Pacific chill and approaching darkness, the world's No. 1 player had every reason to feel like he was in a fight of his own Saturday in the Match Play Championship against Paul Casey.

It was a no-decision.

McIlroy missed from 12 feet on the 18th hole. Casey had a chance to win on the second extra hole when his 18-foot putt stopped one turn short. McIlroy, moving in for the knockout, missed from 6 feet on the third extra hole.

Barely able to see, McIlroy and Casey were forced to return Sunday morning at TPC Harding Park to see who made it to the semifinals.

They were to resume at 6:45 a.m. Sunday on the par-5 opening hole for the right to play

Jim Furyk, the No. 5 seed who reached his first semifinal with a 4-and-2 victory over Louis Oosthuizen of South Africa.

Gary Woodland got up big early against John Senden and coasted to a 5-and-3 victory, fueled by memories of a bad loss last year that the powerful Kansan is determined to not let happen again. He will face Danny Willett of England, who beat his third straight countryman with a 4-and-3 win over Tommy Fleetwood.

The quarterfinals began late so that it could end in prime time on the East Coast, a move that backfired when McIlroy and Casey went overtime. But it was a great match, perhaps not in quality of shots or clutch moments, but certainly in how tense it became on the back nine.

McIlroy has gone 17 holes without the lead. Casey twice lost a 1-up lead by making bogey.

"I had a couple of opportunities to close it out and couldn't quite convert," McIlroy said. "Come back in the morning and try again."

Casey said they weren't sure they could even play the final hole, but they gave it a try. Casey blew his tee shot well to

the right on the reachable 16th, leaving a flop shot to a tight pin that was impossible to get close. He was saved by McIlroy's miss.

"I dodged a couple of bullets," Casey said. "But I gave him one two. I'm glad we're teeing off tomorrow. Standing on this green, I thought I was done for the day, done for the week. The beautiful thing is we hit the reset button."

McIlroy never had a chance

to get to the big fight in Las Vegas.

It would have been close even if he had won his match quickly, as he did Saturday morning in a 6-and-5 victory over Hideki Matsuyama.

Instead of being at the MGM Grand, he went to the interview room, the best place he could find to watch the fight between Manny Pacquiao and Floyd

Mayweather Jr. on TV.

McIlroy must have felt the fatigue from his own bout.

Casey moved ahead with a birdie on the par-5 fifth hole, went 2 up with a birdie on the par-5 seventh and never trailed. McIlroy cut into the lead with a 20-foot birdie putt on the 10th and hole and they pulled even when Casey bogeyed the 13th.

JAKE'S

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ta had a miscommunication. Tobias was at the top key and swung the ball to Norita to the left, but the latter was already cutting to the basket and missed the leather.

Jake's Catering regained possession with 17.9 seconds remaining on the clock, but lost it in the ensuing play as Manolo Manalo was forced to a held ball by Derrick Rangamar after the inbound play and possession arrow pointed to Island Manpower. However, Island Manpower failed to capitalize on another opportunity as Tobias' handoff to Norita at the top key was intercepted by Gamboa. Gamboa then sprinted to their frontcourt and made a twisting layup against the outstretched arms of Rangamar, upping Jake's Catering's lead to 3, 76-73, 3.6 seconds remaining on the clock.

Island Manpower sued for time and when the game resumed, Norita attempted a long triple and missed, giving the championship to Jake's Catering.

Jake's Catering had a chance to win the title in regulation when Jeff Garcia was fouled after the rebound play with .01 of a second left in the fourth quarter. However, he muffed both charities. In the previous play, Island Manpower also had the opportunity to prevail in regulation and complete the come-from-behind victory, but Jun Tabora's turnaround jumper rimmed out, while Garcia colared the defensive rebound and drew a foul on Angel Palacios.

Island Manpower forced the overtime after working its way back from a 9-point deficit in the last 1:49 of the regulation, 67-58. Tobias started the fight-back, converting one of his three charities, followed by two layups from Pete Lizama and one from Norita, while Jake's Catering failed to put the game away with Manalo and Tagle going 0-for-4 from the stripe in the ensuing plays.

Now down by only a deuce, 65-67, Island Manpower had a chance to equalize or grab the lead with a triple, but Lizama and Norita's pick-and-roll play backfired with Tagle anticipating a pass intended for the latter. Jake's Catering pushed the ball with White Capalad drawing a foul on Rangamar on his way to the basket and splitting his charity to give his team more cushion, 68-65. Lizama was also fouled on the

other end, but missed both free throws. However, he redeemed himself in the next play, as after Jake's Catering committed an error at the backcourt, Lizama unloaded a triple from the right key to knot the count, 68-all, 23.1 seconds left in regulation.

Jake's Catering called a timeout to map out its last play, but failed to produce the go-ahead basket, as Jerald Rivera missed a layup. Island Manpower got the rebound and Tabora, with the clock ticking, hurriedly pulled up for what could have been the game-winning basket.

Tabora later made up for the missed shot with the first basket in overtime before fouling out with still 3:55 left in the match. Lizama followed Tabora in the showers, as the former was called for a technical foul for arguing a non-call when he drove to the basket against two Jake's Catering defenders. Lizama left the floor with Island Manpower still ahead, 72-69, off Palacios 3 straight points.

A triple from Capalad tied the match anew, 72-all, with 2:02 left in the game and the score remained unchanged as opposing teams traded misses in the next one minute of the exciting finale. A split free throw from Palacios off a feed from Tobias and Capalad's foul gave Island Manpower a precarious 1-point lead, 73-72, down to the last 31.1 seconds of the match.

Palacios missed his second free throw, while Tagle got the rebound and was fouled by Tobias. Tagle, who made only one of his several charities in the fourth canto, this time went perfect from the stripe to put Jake's Catering on top and they kept the driver's seat, thanks to Island Manpower's back-to-back miscues in the closing seconds and Gamboa's crucial steal.

Gamboa was one of the three Jake's Catering players to finish in twin digits with his 16 points. Capalad added 27, while Manalo chipped in 12. Norita and Tabora had 21 apiece for Island Manpower, which played without Syl Teregeyo, the hero of their 82-80 semis win over SSFM/New Garapan Market.

Jake's Catering 76 – Capalad 27, Gamboa 16, Manalo 12, Rivera 7, Tagle 6, Garcia 4, Rejano 4.

Island Manpower 73 – Norita 21, Tabora 21, Lizama 10, Palacios 9, Tobias 7, Rangamar 5.

Scoring by quarters: 13-12, 37-27, 55-51, 68-68, 76-73 (OT).

Church, Sally top Golden Boot race

Paire Football Club's Kaden Church and Matansa FC's Angel Sally finished the 2015 NMIFA Youth Spring League with the most goals in their respective divisions.

In the co-ed U12, Church led 25 others with his 16 goals in 10 games. The Paire striker scored in eight of their matches, having his most output (5) in their final game (versus Kanoa) in the league this season last April 25. Church edged Tan Holdings' Taka Borja, who collected 14 in 10 games, while MP United's Ye Seong Cho and Rintaro Miyawaki, who earned 12 each, and Kanoa's Ian Karl Maniago (8) rounded out the Top 5.

Other players who scored multiple goals in the spring season were MP United's Hiward Grafon (6), Brian Sun Kim (2), and Jon Villagomez (2); Matansa's Justin Achas (6), Lolobeyong Benito (2), Razeff Altamirano (2), and John Edward Fabia (2); Kanoa's Brian Lubao (5) and Merrick Toves (4); Tan

Holdings' Kohtaro Goto (3) and Jolo Puri (2); and Paire's Maui Johnson (3) and Blake Mister (3).

In the girls U15 division, Sally was the lone player in her age group to notch at least 20 goals with her 22. She highlighted her season with a seven-goal performance in their 12-0 rout of MP United in March. The Matansa star also scored in the last eight games in the double-round robin competition.

Meanwhile, Paire's Guinevere Borja and Shirley's Diana Maniacop were the two other players this season to score more than 10 goals in their division with the former tallying 15 and the latter earning 12.

Joining the trio in the Top 10 were Tan Holdings' Chloe Salvosa (9), Paire's Renita Fleming (9), MP United's Gilliam Villagomez (7), Shirley's Mia Carreon (6), Tan Holdings' May Kay Alferos (5) and Chevy Kaye Alipio (4), and Shirley's De Jana Muna (4). **(Roselyn B. Monroyo)**

der sometime after March 11.

Arum said Pacquiao's camp thought he would be allowed the anti-inflammatory shot because he had gotten them during training and they had been approved by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency. But he said paperwork filed with the commission didn't check the injury box, and the Nevada commission ruled against the request for a shot.

"The ruling made tonight affected the outcome of the fight," Arum said.

Nevada Athletic Commission chairman Francisco Aguilar said Pacquiao's camp wanted shots that included lidocaine, a drug that numbs the affected area. But he said Pacquiao's representatives didn't check the injury box after the weigh-in

Deleon Guerrero is SGA March Ace



Larry I. Deleon Guerrero bagged the Saipan Golf Association March Ace of the Month after shooting a net 70 in last week's monthly tournament.

Deleon Guerrero shot a 47 and 44 in the front and back for a 91 gross. He has a 21 handicap for a net score of 70 that gave him a two-shot win against three others, who ended up tied.

Greg Sablan, Joe I. Sablan, and Joe Demapan all finished with a 72, but the former clinched runner-up honors by way of the scorecard tiebreak.

Greg Sablan had rounds of 40 and 52 for a 92, but with a 20 handicap he finished with

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Agulto for the first out.

Franklin Lizama, in the next play, scored on a wild pitch, while Henry Lizama reached second base and moved to third on a Nogis single setting up Chong's RBI double.

MAJORS Braves 10, IT&E Comets 5

Vicente Camacho went perfect at the plate, 3-for-3 with two runs and three RBIs for the pennant champion Braves in their playoff game against the IT&E Comets yesterday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan ballfield.

Anthony Dison and Steve Kileleman both went 2-for-3 with the former scoring two runs. Di-

son had an RBI single in the first while Kileleman had one run.

Anthony Norita tossed six innings in relief, surrendering four earned runs on six hits with six strikeouts and six walks.

The fight was a chess match, with Mayweather using his jab to keep Pacquiao away most of the fight. Pacquiao tried to force the action, but Mayweather was often out of his reach by the time he found his way inside.

"He's a very awkward fighter, so I had to take my time and watch him close," Mayweather said.

Mayweather fought confidently in the late rounds, winning the last two rounds on all three scorecards. In the final seconds of the fight he raised his right hand in victory and after the bell rang stood on the ropes, pounding his heart with his gloves.

There were no knockdowns, and neither fighter seemed terribly hurt at any time. Pacquiao landed probably the biggest punch in the fight in the fourth round—a left hand that sent Mayweather into the ropes—

MAYWEATHER

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"I take my hat off to Manny Pacquiao. I see now why he is at the pinnacle of boxing," Mayweather said. "I knew he was going to push me, win some rounds. I wasn't being hit with a lot of shots until I sit in a pocket and he landed a lot of shots."

The bout wasn't an artistic triumph for either fighter, with long periods where both men fought cautiously.

Pacquiao threw far fewer punches than he normally does in a fight, with Mayweather actually throwing more.

That was largely because Pacquiao didn't throw his right hand often. Promoter Bob Arum said Pacquiao injured his shoul-

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTERS

PPV venues on Saipan jam-packed



Saipan joined the rest of the world in watching the long-awaited bout between Manny Pacquiao and Floyd Mayweather Jr. as thousands trooped the various pay-per-view venues on the island.

At the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, more than 600 spectators were scattered in three venues and witnessed Mayweather beat Pacquiao via unanimous decision.

"We had to open another venue (Azucena Hall) because people kept calling and begging for PPV tickets," said Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan general manager Abner Acosta.

Fiesta initially had Chambre Bar for VIP ticket-holders and the Hibiscus Hall for general admission and both were sold out as early as Friday morning. In the evening, the hotel resumed selling general admission tickets for the Azucena Hall, which has a seating capacity of 100. An hour before the scheduled Mayweather-Pacquiao duel, the third venue was jam-packed with some patrons forced to stand just to watch the fight in one of the five TV screens inside.

Spectators came in groups and all ages. Friends, family members, co-workers were at the venues as early as 11am, patiently waiting for the main event, which took place after two undercard bouts.

"We got our tickets just this morning after Fiesta said they are opening one more venue. I can't wait to see Pacquiao fight for the first time," said CNMI youth football player Chris Aninzo, who came in with his dad Bert.

Aninzo was one of the many spectators at Fiesta rooting for Pacquiao. Actually, majority of the crowd at the Garapan hotel were rooting for the Filipino, judging from their reactions before, during, and after the fight.

Cheers echoed at the Hibiscus Hall when highlights of Pacquiao's previous fights were flashed at the screen. Loud applause then greeted Pacquiao when he entered the MGM Grand and Filipinos at Fiesta even stood up and joined the singing of the Philippine national anthem. Pacquiao fans also raised their arms and got excited when the Filipino fighter cornered Mayweather and unleashed a flurry of punches.

In contrast, Mayweather received boos from the partisan crowd at Fiesta, especially every time the undefeated boxer danced around the canvas, trying to duck Pacquiao's punches. Some even murmured instructions from their seats as if they were at Pacquiao's corner, trying to advise the eight-division champion on how catch the evasive Mayweather.

"Pacquiao is not the same boxer I watched when he beat Dela Hoya and Hatton. He does not have the killer instinct any-

more. He scored some punches on Mayweather, but it seemed he was holding back. I was hoping he would knockout Mayweather," said Dick Guintu after he watched the fight with his friends.

Carol-Lynn Calobong-Pierce, who was with her husband, Richard, also rooted for Pacquiao and could not believe the outcome of the bout.

"I was shocked. I thought Manny won and landed more solid punches. Even if Mayweather won, the margin should not be that big," Calobong-Pierce said.

One judge scored the bout, 118-110, while the two others had it 116-112, all for the Michigan native.

Thor Sablan said his man, Mayweather, deserved the win, contrary to what other fans claimed.

"Mayweather is a boxer, Pacquiao is a fighter. The boxer won the fight. In boxing, the punches count and Mayweather had a lot of them, consistently hitting Pacquiao. Mayweather is the champ," Sablan said.

"The punches percentage says it all," he added.

Mayweather, who improved to a 48-0 record, while handing Pacquiao his sixth loss, threw 435 punches and landed 148. Pacquiao, on the other hand, went 81-for 429, according to CompuBox.

Like Fiesta Resort, a few kilometers down the road Saipan World Resort also held a PPV party for the event dubbed the "Fight of the Century."

The Royal Taga Hall had general admission ticket holders, while the Red Box Sports Bar and Lilac Room were reserved for VIP.

World Resort local sales manager and public relations officer Mike Babauta said that they had to add more chairs at the Taga Hall to accommodate the volume of spectators.

"There was a huge demand for this fight that's why we decided to add more chairs to allow more people to watch it. People are begging for tickets. It was a huge turnout," Babauta told *Saipan Tribune*.

He added that everything was done within the parameters of the fire safety code. "Of course,



JON PEREZ
Boxing fans intently watch the Mayweather-Pacquiao fight at the giant screen inside the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort.

we also thought of safety issues. We don't want to have any accident or any untoward incident."

Babauta said an estimated 800 fans squeezed their way at the Taga Hall, while 100 each watched the bout at the Red Box and Lilac Room.

"We sold 500 tickets but a lot of people were begging for us to add some more. There were also a lot of people who are waiting outside in case we decided to sell at the door, but we have to limit the number."

"Sales-wise, this is one of the best events held here at the World Resort. We expect another packed crowd on May 15 for the Trench Tech event," ended Babauta.

Over at The Naked Fish, World Resort's next-door neighbor, co-owner Joe Guerrero said it was just a last-minute decision to have a viewing party for the fight.

"A lot of people want to watch this fight, the demand is high that's why Docomo talked to us if we can host it. We're sold out since yesterday and there were 50 more who were waiting at the door, but we have to keep it within our limit," Guerrero said.

Around 70 to 80 people watched the fight at the Susupe bar, which also hosted a viewing party for Super Bowl XLIX

this year.

"We're hoping to be a sports and entertainment hub for the community. We also plan to have a similar event for the NBA Finals. And we also lined up concerts and a comedy show," added Guerrero.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Manny Pacquiao's fans watching the pay-per-view for the "Fight of the Century" at the Hibiscus Hall of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan yesterday celebrate as the Filipino boxer catches Floyd Mayweather Jr. in the ropes during the fourth round of their bout at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Some spectators are forced to stand at the back of the Hibiscus Hall of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan after running out of seats for the Manny Pacquiao-Floyd Mayweather Jr. pay-per-view bout yesterday.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Some spectators wait for their turn to get general admission tickets to the Manny Pacquiao-Floyd Mayweather Jr. pay-per-view show at the Azucena Hall of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan yesterday.



JON PEREZ
A smaller group of fans enjoy watching the Mayweather-Pacquiao bout, dubbed as the "Fight of the Century" at The Naked Fish.



**Paul lifts
Clippers past
Spurs, 111-109
in Game 7**

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Enforcers lock up Senior League title

By **JON PEREZ**
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REPORTER

Ethan Babauta and Kier Agda shared pitching duties, while J.J. Chong drove in two runs as the Enforcers rallied to beat the Red Sox, 4-2, in the Senior League division finals of the Saipan Little League yesterday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" M. Palacios Baseball Field.

Babauta and Agda held the Red Sox to two runs with the latter pitching three shut-out innings in relief.

Babauta tossed 3 1/3 innings where he limited the Red Sox to one earned run on one hit with three strikeouts and one walk.

Agda came in when Roke Tenorio was up to bat in the top of the fourth. He gave up a single to Tenorio, who scored on an error by Enforcers first baseman Ton Muna.

Agda surrendered four hits with two strikeouts and no walks.

In the top of the seventh, with the Enforcers holding on to a two-run lead, Agda forced Jose Tyquenco to ground out on a 4-3 putout play for the first out,

but the Red Sox got a runner on base when Ton Agulto walked.

Agda struck out Austin Roberto while allowing a single to Craig Aguon, who represented the Red Sox's tying run. Ton

Agulto moved to second on that Aguon single.

Agda, however, forced Charles Leon Guerrero to fly out to Nate Nogis to end the game and start the Enforcers' celebration.

Chong went 2-for-3 with a two-RBI double in the Enforcers' four-run comeback in the bottom of the sixth.

Jun Sablan, pinch running for Josiah Lizama, started the Enforcers' comeback when he scored the first run in the sixth.

Virgil Secharmidal walked



JON PEREZ
The Enforcers enjoy their victory after receiving their Senior League championship trophy from CNMI District Administrator Mike Borja, third left back row, and Saipan Little League vice president Annie Flores, second left, secretary Piding Tenorio, and volunteer Remy Celis. The Enforcers beat the Red Sox, 4-2, yesterday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" M. Palacios Baseball Field.

and moved to second on a Franklin Lizama single. He got to third on a Henry Lizama single but was tagged out at home after failing to beat the relay throw made by Red Sox right fielder Tyquenco to catcher

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Mayweather wins decision in richest fight ever

By **TIM DAHLBERG**
AP BOXING WRITER

LAS VEGAS (AP)—The pressure of a \$180 million payday never got to Floyd

Mayweather Jr., even if the richest fight ever wasn't the best.

Using his reach and his jab Saturday night, Mayweather frustrated



Manny Pacquiao, piling up enough points to win a unanimous decision in their welterweight title bout. Mayweather remained

unbeaten in 48 fights, cementing his legacy as the best of his generation.

After the fight, it was disclosed that Pacquiao injured his right shoulder in training and that Nevada boxing commissioners denied his request to take an anti-inflammatory shot in his dressing room before the fight.

Pacquiao chased Mayweather around the ring most of the fight. But he was never able to land a sustained volume of punches, as Mayweather worked his defensive wizardry again.

Two ringside judges scored the fight 116-112, while the third had it 118-110. The Associated Press had Mayweather ahead 115-113.

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AP
Floyd Mayweather Jr., left, and Manny Pacquiao, from the Philippines, embrace in the ring at the finish of their welterweight title fight on Saturday, May 2, 2015 in Las Vegas.

Jake's Catering bags DLX crown

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

Jake's Catering needed overtime to survive a gallant stand by Island Manpower, 76-73, and clinch the championship in the 2015 DLX Invitational Basketball League last Saturday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Ron Gamboa made a crucial

steal and a fastbreak layup in the closing seconds of the extension to win it for Jake's Catering, while Island Manpower committed two passing errors to fall short in its title bid.

The first mistake came after Aba Tagle canned two pressure-packed free throws that gave Jake's Catering a shaky lead, 74-73, as Ferdie Tobias and Jerome Nori-

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Jake's Catering's Jeff Garcia drives against Island Manpower's Angel Palacios, center, while Jerome Norita stands by for help defense during the second quarter of their title game in the DLX caging last Saturday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.